The Hong Kong Daily Press.

No. 9087 號七十八零千九第 日三十二月正年三十緒光 HONGKONG, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH, 1887. 二 [illegible] 號五十月二 [illegible] [PRICE $2½ PER MONTH

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

February 14, DEVONSHIRE, British steamer, 1,513, Anthony Purvis, New York, and Singapore 5th February, General.—RUSSELL & Co.

February 14, SARTHE, French steamer, 470, O. Porteau, Haiphong 11th February, Ballast. CARLOWITZ & Co.

February 14, MONGKUT, British steamer, 859, Loff, Bangkok 7th February, General.—YUEN FAT HONG.

February 14, TEVIOT, British steamer, 1,346, D. McCorkindale, Saigon 9th February, Paddy and Rice.—ORDER.

February 14, SOOCHOW, British steamer, 326, C. Koch, Pakhoi 11th February, and Hoihow 13th, Pigs.—CHINESE.

February 14, GENERAL WERDER, German str., 1,819, W. von Schuckmann, Bremen 2nd January, and Singapore 8th February, General.—MELCHERS & Co.

CLEARANCES.

AT THE HARBOUR MASTER'S OFFICE.

14TH FEBRUARY.

Devonshire, British str., for Shanghai.
Marie, German str., for Haiphong.
Esmeralda, British str., for Manila.
Nestor, British str., for Amoy.
Glenroy, British str., for Foochow.
Amigo, German str., for Amoy.
Hailoong, British str., for Swatow.
Falkenburg, German str., for Saigon.
Dafila, British str., for Hoihow.
Ningpo, British str., for Shanghai.
Vorwaerts, German str., for Saigon.

DEPARTURES.

February 13, AMOY, British str., for Whampoa.
February 14, ANTON, German str., for Hoihow.
February 14, MONOCACY, American gunboat, for Canton.
February 13, WELLINGDORF, German str., for Saigon.
February 14, AMIGO, German str., for Amoy.
February 14, DEVONHURST, Dutch steamer, for Sourabaya.
February 14, ESMERALDA, British steamer, for Manila.
February 14, NESTOR, British str., for Shanghai.
February 14, GLENROY, Brit. str., for Shanghai.
February 14, HAILOONG, Brit. str., for Swatow.
February 14, FALKENBURG, German str., for Saigon.
February 14, NINGPO, Brit. str., for Shanghai.
February 14, VORWAERTS, Ger. str., for Saigon.
February 14, HIMALAYA, British troopship, for Port Hamilton.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per *Devonshire*, str., from New York, &c.—Messrs. A. Lewish, A. Deuney, Jno. Russell, and P. S. Yen, and 40 Chinese.

Per *Soochow*, str., from Hoihow.—Mr. Herton, and 53 Chinese.

DEPARTED.

Per *Fooksang*, str., for Shanghai.—Mr. C. Ross.

Per *Fokien*, str., for Tamsui.—Mr. Stuart.

Per *Ningpo*, str., for Shanghai.—Messrs. Bernard, Gergy, and Pestalazige.

Per *Devonhurst*, str., for Singapore.—Mr. T. K. James, and Miss Leonett.

Per *Esmeralda*, str., for Manila.—Mrs. Sarah Marmelstein, Messrs. Thos. Rich and John Russell, and 4 Chinese.

TO DEPART.

Per *Nepaul*, str., from Hongkong.—For Saigon.—Dr. and Mrs. Simon, and Mr. F. B. Lees. For Bombay.—Messrs. F. C. Keeba, J. M. Vajefdar, and N. F. Mehta. For London.—Rev. and Mrs. Harding, Major A. C. Ward, Rev. W. Campbell, Messrs. J. H. Ferguson, R.N., and A. Strange. From Shanghai.—For London.—Mrs. Andrews and infant, and Miss Purple. From Yokohama.—For London.—Messrs. W. Lamberts, W. E. Arthur, Kemsley, and Pennington. From Nagasaki.—For Singapore.—Mr. Drage and native servant.

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Teviot*, from Saigon 9th February, reports had strong northerly winds with heavy head sea to Bombay Reef; from thence to port moderate weather.

The British steamer *Mongkut*, from Bangkok 7th February, reports experienced in the Gulf of Siam light southerly wind and calm; from Pulo Condore to port moderate fresh monsoon with fine weather.

FOR SALE.

CHAMPAGNE "MONOPOLE," —HEIDSIECK & Co.—

MONOPOLE RED SEAL (medium dry).
Do. "sec" RED FOIL } (dry).
Do. GOLD FOIL }
DRY Do. do. (extra dry).

CARLOWITZ & Co.,
Sole Agents for
HEIDSIECK & Co., REIMS,
For Hongkong, China, and Japan.

Hongkong, 1st July, 1885. [1294

FOR SALE.

THE BRITISH STEAMER "SOO CHOW,"

Capacity, 313 Tons.
Speed, 11 Knots.
Thoroughly repaired last month.
Terms moderate.
Apply to HO TIM,
Broker,
18, Bank Buildings,
Queen's Road.

Hongkong, 5th February, 1887. [291

JUST RECEIVED.

GUARANTEED the very best Quality HOLLAND GENEVER or GIN in Cases of One Dozen or less, White Crystal Glass Bottles, Key Brand.

—Also GENEVER in Stone Bottles and POMERANZEN BITTERS.

GUNS, RIFLES, REVOLVERS, CARTRIDGES, SHOT, &c., &c., &c.

The RISING HOPE SHAG TOBACCO from Nelle, (Rotterdam.)

J. F. SCHEFFER,
146| 21, & 23, Pottinger Street.

FOR SALE.

GERMAN BEER,
BRAUEREI "ZUR EICHE," KIEL,

$8 per Case of 4 dozen quarts.

EDUARD SCHELLHASS & Co.,
Sole Agents,
Hongkong and China.

Hongkong, 4th November, 1886. [2073

JOSEPH GILLOTT'S
STEEL PENS.

GOLD MEDAL,
PARIS, 1878.

Sold by all
Stationers and Dealers. |948

INTIMATIONS.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co., have received another NEW STOCK of TENNIS BATS, BALLS, and TENNIS SUNDRIES of all kinds:—

L. C. & Co.'s New Bat "The Kensington."
L. C. & Co.'s special "The Demon."
Ayres' "Treble-Grip" and "Champion" Bats.
Jefferies' Cork & Cedar handled Bats.
Maling's "Anti Tennis" & "The Perfect" Bats.
L. C. & Co.'s special "The Perfect Seamless" Tennis Ball.
Ayres' "Wimbledon" and Maling's Double Sewn Balls.
Ayres' "Cavendish" Tennis Poles and Nets.
Ayres' Moveable Tape Courts.
"The Eclipse" Court-Marker.
Lawn Tennis Bags, Waterproof Bat Holders, Tennis Shoes, Game Scorers, Bat Presses, Tennis Shirts, Belts, Waist Scarfs, Tennis Hats, and Tennis Rules.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co. beg to call attention to the fact, they have a Stock of 400 TENNIS BATS TO SELECT FROM.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

Hongkong, 2nd February, 1887. |26

KELLY & WALSH, LIMITED, HAVE JUST RECEIVED

The Hongkong Almanack, 1887.
British Journal of Photography Alk., 1887.
Year Book of Photography, 1887.
Ruff's Winter Turf Guide.
Tom Hood's Comic Annual, 1887.
Unwin's Annual—The Witching Time.
Will's Bristol Bird's Eye Tobacco.
Will's Three Castles Tobacco.
Myrtle Grove Tobacco.
Allen and Ginter's Richmond Mixture.
Old Rip Tobacco.
Little Beauties Cigarettes.
Richmond Straight Cut Cigarettes.
A Magnificent Assortment of New American Birthday Cards.
Chas. Dickens' Works, handsomely bound in leather.
Whatman's Drawing Paper—Rough, Smooth and Medium.
Photograph Scrap Albums.
How to win at Nap—40 cents.
Unicode—a capital little Telegraphic Code.
Almanack de Gotha—French and German.
Hitchcock Mechanical Lamps.
Waterbury Watches—$4 each.
Whittaker's Almanacks.

KELLY & WALSH, LD., HONGKONG.

24

W. BREWER HAS JUST RECEIVED

Mathematical Instruments.
Water Colours in Boxes.
Lord Brassey's Naval Annual.
More Christmas Annuals.
Drat the Boys, by Max O'Rell.
Clifton's Manual, Portuguese and English.
Manual of Conversation in Six Languages.
Tourists' and Students' Manual of Languages
Pray's Twenty Years with the Indicator.
Goodfellow's Ready Calculator—invaluable to those concerned in the Freight of Goods.
British Pharmacopœia.
Myrtle Grove Tobacco.
Gold Leaf and Golden Cloud.
Three Castles.
Gentlemen's Dancing Pumps.
Ladies' French Kid Walking Shoes.
Ladies' French Evening Shoes.

—W. BREWER, Queen's Road.
UNDER HONGKONG HOTEL. [25

NOW READY.

THE KUNG HO CHIH YU WALTZ,
and
THE FEIHOO WALTZES,
by
R. C. PASSMORE,
published by
SYDENHAM MOUTRIE,
THE PIANOFORTE AND MUSIC WAREHOUSE,
Shanghai.

12th January, 1887. [63

NOTICES OF FIRMS.

NOTICE.

WE Have THIS DAY authorized MR. JOHANN GEORG LUDWIG SCHROTER to SIGN our Firm per procuration.

MEYER & Co.

Hongkong, 21st January, 1887. |199

NOTICE.

I Have THIS DAY established myself as MERCHANT and COMMISSION AGENT, under the Style or Firm of

FRD. NAUDIN.

Hongkong, 1st February, 1887. |263

NOTICE.

THE Undersigned will enter into PARTNERSHIP on the 1st January, 1887, as SHARE AND GENERAL BROKERS under the Style or Firm "HUGHES & EZRA."

E. JONES HUGHES,
N. N. J. EZRA.

Hongkong, 31st December, 1886. [73

NOTICE.

THE Undersigned begs to give notice that he, being the SOLE PROPRIETOR of the Boot and Shoe-making business carried on at No. 38, Wellington Street, under the name of HING SHING, which he has carried on for more than 30 years, has now, on account of old age retired therefrom, and that he has, from the 1st day of the 1st Moon of the present Chinese year, sold the Goodwill, Stock-in-trade, &c., to his brother LEUNG NING, who will carry it on as usual. The Undersigned will not be responsible for any Debts contracted by the Firm hereafter.

LEUNG KO,
280| Late Owner of the HING SHING SHOP.

NOTICE.

MR. YEE FOO is authorized to SIGN my Firm or my name per procuration.

YEE HING,
KWONG CHEUNG FIRM,
No. 40, Wellington Street.

Hongkong, 5th February, 1887. |289

SPECIAL CAUTION.

THE BEST BRAND OF MANILA CIGARS.

THE CHUN HING SHOP has been Established for many years in the Back Street, at the Head of the Large Bridge Manila. By selecting the very best quality of Leaf, and by the greatest care and skill in the Manufacture of Cigars, this Shop has succeeded in producing an article which is unexcelled for its aroma and smoking qualities and for its freedom from all adulterations and impurities.

Accordingly, the Government has granted the Shop the Government Stamp of Manila, and as a further protection each box is marked with THREE Bs.

As these Cigars have earned a wide reputation for excellence, lately some unprincipled Persons have counterfeited the mark: therefore the Partners of the CHUN HING SHOP respectfully request their Customers to examine the Covers of the Boxes and the wrappers within.

COCACO, CHUN HING SHOP,
Manila,
Care of BANG SIENG HONG,
No. 16, Bonham Strand West
Hongkong.

8th February, 1887. |311

BANKS.

THE NEW ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION, LIMITED.

AUTHORISED CAPITAL .... £2,000,000.
PAID UP .... £ 500,000.

Registered Office, 40, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON.

BRANCHES IN INDIA, CHINA, JAPAN AND THE COLONIES.

THE BANK receives money on Deposit, Buys and Sells Bills of Exchange, issues Letters of Credit, forwards Bills for Collection, and Transacts Banking and Agency Business generally on terms to be had on application.

Interest allowed on Deposits:—
Fixed for 12 months, 5 per Cent. per Annum.
Fixed for 6 months, 4 per Cent. per Annum.
Fixed for 3 months, 3 per Cent. per Annum.
On Current Deposit Accounts 2 per Cent. per Annum on the daily balance.

APPROVED CLAIMS on the ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION, in Liquidation, or the BALANCES of such Claims purchased on advantageous terms.

Agency of the NATIONAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

H. A. HERBERT,
Manager, Hongkong Branch.

Hongkong, 31st May, 1886. [10

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL .... $7,500,000.
RESERVE FUND .... 4,500,000.
RESERVE FOR EQUALIZATION OF DIVIDENDS } 200,000.
RESERVE LIABILITY OF PROPRIETORS 7,500,000.

COURT OF DIRECTORS:—
Chairman—A. McIVER, Esq.
Deputy Chairman—M. GROTE, Esq.
Hon. J. Bell-Irving. | H. Hoppius, Esq.
C. D. Bottomley, Esq. | E. H. M. Huntington, Esq.
H. L. Dalrymple, Esq. | Hon. A. P. McEwen.
W. H. F. Darby, Esq. | Hon. F. D. Sassoon.

CHIEF MANAGER.
Hongkong—THOMAS JACKSON, Esq.
ACTING CHIEF MANAGER.
Hongkong—JOHN WALTER, Esq.
MANAGER.
Shanghai—EWEN CAMERON, Esq.
LONDON BANKERS—LONDON & COUNTY BANK.

HONGKONG—INTEREST ALLOWED.

On Current Deposit Account at the rate of 2 per cent. per Annum on the daily balance.

On Fixed Deposits:—
For 3 months 3 per Cent. per Annum.
For 6 months 4 per Cent. per Annum.
For 12 months 5 per Cent. per Annum.

LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.

CREDITS granted on approved Securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

DRAFTS granted on London and the chief commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

JOHN WALTER,
Acting Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 28th August, 1886. [8

NOTICE.

RULES OF THE HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK.

1.—The business of the above Bank will be conducted by the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, on their premises in Hongkong. Business hours on week-days, 10 to 3; Saturdays, 10 to 1.

2.—Sums less than $1, or more than $250 at one time will not be received. No depositor may deposit more than $2,500 in any one year.

3.—Depositors in the Savings Bank having $100 or more at their credit may at their option transfer the same to the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation on fixed deposit for 12 months at 5 per cent. per annum interest.

4.—Interest at the rate of 3½ per cent. per annum will be allowed to Depositors on their daily balances.

5.—Each Depositor will be supplied gratis with a Pass-Book, which must be presented with each payment or withdrawal. Depositors must not make any entries themselves in their Pass-Books, but should send them to be written up at least twice a year, about the beginning of January and beginning of July.

6.—Correspondence as to the business of the Bank if marked ON HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK BUSINESS is forwarded free by the various British Post Offices in Hongkong and China.

7.—Withdrawals may be made on demand, but the personal attendance of the Depositor or his duly appointed Agent, and the production of his Pass-Book are necessary.

For the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION,
JOHN WALTER,
Acting Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 8th May, 1885. [9

THE SHANGHAI DOCK COMPANY.

TENDERS are invited for a lease of the Company's Dock in Hongkew known as the Old Dock and at present in the occupation of Messrs. S. C. FARNHAM & Co. for a term of not less than three and not exceeding ten years from the 1st of July next.

Persons tendering should state the nature of the security they propose giving for payment of the rent and the due performance of the conditions of the lease and should send in their tenders not later than the 31st of March next, to Messrs. MYBURGH & DOWDALL, the Secretaries of the Company, No. 21, Foochow Road, where further Particulars can be obtained. The Company does not bind itself to accept the highest or any tender.

Shanghai, 1st February, 1887. [305

FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS REWARD.

TRADE MARK.
(A Watch Face with the words "Hang Mee" in English and Chinese at each side).

NOTICE is hereby given that Mr. LEUNG SHIK WAN (梁式雲) of the "HANG MEE" SHOP, Honam, Canton, complied with the requirements of Ordinance No. 16 of 1873 for the registration in this Colony of his mark as applied to Tea and the same has been duly registered.

Notice of Registration appeared in the *Government Gazette* (Notification No. 420 of 1885).

Mr. LEUNG SHIK WAN is informed that certain Traders have imitated or used his Trade Mark, and he offers a Reward of $500 to any Person who shall give satisfactory information in proof of such imitation or wrongful use of the said Mark.

Mr. HENRY J. HOLMES is Solicitor for the said LEUNG SHIK WAN.

Dated this 7th day of February, 1887.

314| 恒 美

HONGKONG FLOWER SHOW.

THE 15TH ANNUAL EXHIBITION will be held in the BOTANIC GARDENS, on THURSDAY AND FRIDAY, the 17th and 18th February, 1887.

ALL EXHIBITS must be Entered not later than the 14th instant, and PLANTS IN POTS should be sent in on the 16th instant.

ADMISSION:—First Day, $1; Second Day, 20 Cents.

TICKETS FOR THE FIRST DAY may be obtained from LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

SCHEDULES OF PRIZES can be obtained from
CHARLES FORD,
Hon. Sec.

Hongkong, 5th February, 1887. |288

INTIMATIONS.

ZETLAND LODGE.

No. 525.

AN EMERGENCY MEETING of the above LODGE will be held in FREEMASONS' HALL, Zetland Street, TO-MORROW, the 16th instant, at 8.30 for 9 P.M., precisely. VISITING BRETHREN are cordially INVITED.

Hongkong, 12th February, 1887. [342

HONGKONG AND CHINA BAKERY COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS of the above Company will be held at the Company's Office, on FRIDAY, the 18th instant, at 4.30 O'CLOCK P.M. for the purpose of receiving the Report of the General Managers and a Statement of Accounts to 31st December, 1886, and for the election of a Consulting Committee and Auditor.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 12th February, 1887. [341

THE HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

NOTICE is hereby given that the Eighteenth ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS in the above named Company will be held at the Company's Office situate in Peddar's Street, Victoria, in the Colony of Hongkong, on TUESDAY, the 22nd day of February, 1887, at 12.30 o'clock in the Afternoon to receive a Statement of Accounts to the 31st December, 1886, the Report of the General Managers, and to elect a Consulting Committee and Auditors.

AND NOTICE is hereby also given that at the same place and in the same day at 12.45 O'CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON or so soon afterwards as the Ordinary Annual Meeting shall be concluded, an EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Company will be held for the purpose of passing the subjoined resolution.

Should the resolution be passed by the required majority it will be submitted for confirmation as a SPECIAL RESOLUTION to a SECOND EXTRAORDINARY MEETING which will be subsequently convened.

RESOLUTION.

That the Articles of Association be altered in manner following:—

(a.) The following Article shall be substituted for Article No. 111, namely:—111.—The Reserve Fund shall consist of a sum of not less than $1,000,000 nor more than $1,500,000.

(b.) The following Article shall be substituted for Article No. 112, namely:—112.—The Reserve Fund having now reached the sum of $1,000,000 the General Managers and the Consulting Committee may appropriate from time to time so much of the profits as they may deem desirable to the Reserve Fund until the said Fund shall amount to the sum of $1,500,000 provided always that such annual appropriation shall not exceed 10 per Cent. of the said profits.

(c.) The following Article shall be substituted for Article No. 115, namely:—115.—The said Reserve Fund shall if practicable be maintained at a sum of not less than $1,000,000 nor more than $1,500,000 and the whole of the future accruing profits of the Company shall, subject to such annual Bonus as aforesaid and less such portion or portions (if any) thereof (not exceeding in any year 30 per Cent. of the profits of such year) as the General Managers may (as they are hereby empowered to do) apply in maintaining the Reserve Fund at a sum of not less than $1,000,000 and less also such portion or portions (if any) thereof as may from time to time be applied in increasing the said Reserve Fund under Article 112 be divisible amongst the Shareholders generally according to the number of Shares held by each.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 9th to the 22nd day of February both days inclusive.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
General Managers,
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Limited.

Hongkong, 31st January, 1887. |250

THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE EIGHTEENTH ORDINARY MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS in the Company will be held at the Company's Office, No. 45, Queen's Road, Victoria, at THREE O'CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON of TUESDAY, the 22nd February instant, for the purpose of receiving a Statement of Accounts, and the Report of the Directors for the year ending 31st December, 1886.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 9th instant to the 22nd instant, both days inclusive.

By Order,
JAS. B. COUGHTRIE,
Secretary.

Hongkong, 5th February, 1887. [294

HONGKONG ICE COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE SIXTH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS will be held at the Office of the Company, Pedder's Street, on TUESDAY, the 22nd instant, at FOUR P.M., to receive a statement of the Accounts of the Company to 31st December, 1886, and the Report of the General Managers, also to discuss any matters that may be competently brought before the Meeting.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 12th to 22nd instant both days inclusive.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 10th February, 1887. [333

HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE ORDINARY YEARLY MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS will be held in the Offices of the Company No. 14, Praya Central, on SATURDAY, the 26th February, at 11 A.M., for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors and Statement of Accounts to December 31st, 1886.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 13th to the 26th February, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
D. GILLIES,
Secretary.

Hongkong, 20th January, 1887. [191

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

NOTICE is hereby given that the ORDINARY YEARLY MEETING of the SHAREHOLDERS in this Corporation will be held at the City Hall, Hongkong, on SATURDAY, the 26th day of February Current, at 12 O'CLOCK NOON, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Court of Directors together with a Statement of Accounts to 31st December, 1886.

By Order of the Court of Directors,
JOHN WALTER,
Acting Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 1st February, 1887. [267

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

NOTICE is hereby given that the REGISTERS OF SHARES of the Corporation will be closed from the 12th to the 26th day of February Current (both days inclusive), during which period no transfer of Shares can be registered.

By Order of the Court of Directors
JOHN WALTER,
Acting Chief Manager,

Hongkong, 1st February, 1887. |266

AUCTIONS.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

THE following Particulars of Sale of Crown Land by Public Auction, to be held on the SPOT, on

MONDAY,
the 21st day of February, 1887, at 4 P.M.,
are published for general information.

By Command,
FREDERICK STEWART,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Hongkong, 5th February, 1887.

Particulars of the letting by Public Auction Sale, to be held on MONDAY, the 21st day of February, 1887, at 4 P.M., by Order of His EXCELLENCY THE OFFICER ADMINISTERING THE GOVERNMENT of One lot of Crown Land, in the Colony of Hongkong, for a term of 999 Years.

PARTICULARS OF THE LOT.

No. of Sale.	Registry No.	Locality.	Boundary Measurements. N.	S.	E.	W.	Contents in Square ft.	Annual Rent.	Upset Price.
	Inland Lot	—	feet.	feet.	feet.	feet.		$.	$.
1	1062	{Kennedy Town.}	200	200	200	200	40,000	576	5000

|315

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instructions to Sell by Public Auction, on

MONDAY,
the 28th February, 1887, at 11 A.M., on BOARD,—

THE BRITISH THREE-MASTED SCHOONER
"WANDERING MINSTREL,"

of 362 Tons Register, Built in 1875, and Newly Sheathed with Yellow Metal, with all her TACKLE and APPAREL, as she then lies in the Harbour, near the COSMOPOLITAN DOCK.

TERMS OF SALE.—One-third of the Purchase Money to be paid after fall of hammer, the remainder upon transfer; the Vessel to be at Purchaser's risk immediately after being knocked down.

A STEAM LAUNCH will leave Pedder's Wharf at 10.45 A.M.

For further Particulars, apply to the AUCTIONEER.

G. R. LAMMERT,
Auctioneer.

Hongkong, 7th February, 1887. |306

NOTICES TO CONSIGNEES.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM CALCUTTA, PENANG, AND SINGAPORE.

THE Steamship

"JAPAN,"

having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading to the undersigned for countersignature and to take immediate delivery of their Goods from alongside.

Cargo impeding her discharge will be at once landed and stored at Consignees' risk and expense, and no Fire Insurance will be effected.

Consignees are hereby informed, that all Claims must be made immediately, as none will be entertained after the 15th instant.

DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co.,

Hongkong, 8th February, 1887. |322

FROM GLASGOW, LONDON, AND SINGAPORE.

THE Steamship

"GLENROY,"

having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo by her are hereby informed that their Goods, with the exception of Opium, are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Undersigned whence and/or from the wharves or boats delivery may be obtained.

Cargo remaining undelivered after the 17th instant, will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.

Hongkong, 12th February, 1887. [345

TO CONSIGNEES OF OPTIONAL CARGO EX O. S. S. CO.'S S.S. "NESTOR," FROM LIVERPOOL.

SHIPPING Orders must be obtained from the Undersigned not later than the 15th inst., for shipment per steamer "PROMETHEUS."

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.

Hongkong, 12th February, 1887.

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

CONSIGNEES per Company's Steamer "NESTOR," are hereby notified that the Cargo is being discharged into Craft, and/or landed at the Godowns of the Undersigned; in both cases it will lie at Consignees' risk. The Cargo will be ready for delivery from Craft or Godown on and after the 13th inst.

Goods undelivered after the 20th instant, will be subject to Rent.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.

Hongkong, 12th February, 1887. |307

BRITISH NORTH BORNEO.

WHEREAS a Grant of Land known as Sandakan Town Grant No. 19, registered in the name of TAN YOW FONG (of Chun Yuen Street, Canton) is held by YONG SUNG of Sandakan as security for a Debt of certain monies lent to YEX SAM in July, 1884, NOTICE is hereby given that the said Grant will be registered in the name of the said YONG SUNG, unless cause is shown to the contrary before the 6th of April, 1887.

HENRY WALKER,
Commissioner of Lands.

Land Office,
Sandakan, 6th January, 1887. |313

TIMBER.

THE Undersigned, Agents for Messrs. E. E. ABRAHAMSON & Co., Sandakan, British North Borneo, are now prepared to submit for inspection Samples of hard and soft TIMBERS suitable for Wharves, Building and General purposes.

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 2nd November, 1886. [40

STANDARD LIFE OFFICE.

INVESTED FUNDS £6,466,527

ENDOWMENT ASSURANCE POLICIES
SECURED PAYMENT POLICIES
RETIREMENT ANNUITY POLICIES
} Are granted under liberal conditions as regards Rates, Non-forfeiture, Surrenders and Revival.

EVERY facility is afforded for despatch of Business. Premiums moderate. Proposal Forms on application.

THE BORNEO COMPANY, LIMITED,
Agents, Hongkong.

Hongkong, 20th April 1886. |2050—3

WING TAI & Co.

SHIP'S COMPRADORES, STEVEDORES,
AND
COAL MERCHANTS.

FRESH PROVISIONS SUPPLIED AT THE SHORTEST NOTICE,
No. 25, PRAYA CENTRAL.

榮泰公司煤炭發客 |284

INTIMATIONS.

SALINGER'S ENGLISH OPERA BOUFFE COMPANY.

THEATRE ROYAL,
CITY HALL, HONGKONG.

THIS (TUESDAY) EVENING,
15th February, 1887.

BUSINESS MANAGER...... Mr. N. SALINGER.
STAGE MANAGER........ Mr. A. RIGBY.

ANOTHER GRAND CHANGE OF PROGRAMME.

R. PLANQUETTE'S COMIC OPERA,
IN THREE ACTS,
"LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE;"
OR
"THE MISER AND HIS GOLD."

CHARACTERS:
Henri (Marquis de Corneville)...Mr. A. RIGBY
Bailiff of Corneville..Mr. FRANK D'ESTE
Gobo ...(His Factotum)..Mr. G. C. WILSON
GRENICHEAUX (A Fisher Lad) Mr. A. FAWCETT
GASPARD (A Miser) Mr. HERBERT SALINGER
SERPOLETTE (A Waif) Miss TILLY SARONEY
GERMAINE (Gaspard's Niece) Miss L. SALINGER
MANETTE } (Village } Mrs. N. SALINGER
SUZANNE } Gossips) } Miss ALICE EMMETT
CHRISTO ....Master MAGNUS SALINGER

SPLENDID NEW COSTUMES AND APPOINTMENTS.

Mr. HERBERT W. POWYS-WOOD,
Musical Director.

By kind permission of Colonel ANDERSON and OFFICERS, the Band of the Northamptonshire Regiment will play during the interval.

PRICES OF ADMISSION:—
Dress Circle & Stalls .... $2.
Back Seats .... $1.
Military and Sailors in uniform Half Price to back seats only.

To avoid disappointment secure your seats early.

Reserved Seats may be booked at Messrs. KELLY & WALSH, LIMITED, where a Plan of the Hall may be seen.

Doors open at 8.30 p.m. To commence at 9 p.m.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17TH,
THE "MIKADO."

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19TH,
"THE GRAND DUCHESS OF GEROLSTEIN."

Hongkong, 11th February, 1887. [355

IN HER BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S COURT AT SWATOW.

IN BANKRUPTCY.

RE WILFRED REEVES.

TO CREDITORS.—Take Notice that the FIRST MEETING OF CREDITORS in the above matter will be held on the 25th day of February, 1887, at the BRITISH CONSULATE, Swatow, at 10 A.M.

To entitle you to vote thereat your proof must be lodged with me ONE CLEAR DAY AT LEAST before the Meeting.

In the absence of the Debtor at Tientsin a day for his public examination cannot yet be fixed.

W. H. WILKINSON,
Official Receiver.

Swatow, 11th February, 1887. [352

IN BANKRUPTCY.

NOTICE is hereby given that on a Petition dated December 1st, 1886, a receiving Order against ~~the~~ Estate of WILFRED REEVES of Swatow, Engineer, was made by HER BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S CONSULAR COURT of Swatow, holden at Swatow on the 11th day of February, 1887.

W. H. WILKINSON,
353] Official Receiver.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.
No. 5 (SPECIAL).

CHINA SEA.

SHANGHAI DISTRICT.

WRECK OF THE CHINESE TRANSPORT "WAN NIEN CHING."

NOTICE is hereby given that the temporary Lightship "CHING TAH" has been moored about 5 cables to the north-eastward of the wreck of the Chinese transport "WAN NIEN CHING," which lies in 3 fathoms at low water spring tides 7 7/10ths nautical miles S. 26 deg. 24 min. E. from the "TUNGSHA" Lightship.

The "CHING TAH" exhibits two fixed Lights, in a vertical line, the upper one RED and the lower one WHITE, elevated respectively 58 feet and 34 feet above the sea and visible in clear weather at a distance of 5 nautical miles.

A small WHITE Light is exhibited from the fore-stay, 6 feet above the rail to show the direction in which the Lightship is heading.

The Lightship is painted black. Her main-top-mast has a yard across, from which the two Lights are suspended, and it is surmounted by an inverted cone, painted black. The fore and mizzen top-masts are struck.

In foggy or thick weather a gong will be sounded at intervals of one minute.

If the Lightship be driven from her proper position to one where she is of no use as a guide to shipping, the usual Lights will not be exhibited, but a small fixed Red Light will be shown at each end of the vessel; the cone will be struck as soon as possible and till struck it will be surmounted by a Red Flag.

CAUTION:—

Vessels should not pass between the Lightship and the Wreck.

A. M. BISBEE,
Coast Inspector.

Imperial Maritime Customs,
Coast Inspector's Office,
Shanghai, 2nd February, 1887. [354

NOTICE.

TO LEASE.

THE SPACIOUS PREMISES known as the HONGKONG STEAM LAUNDRY COMPANY (LIMITED), comprising
A SIX ROOMED DWELLING,
A SPACIOUS DRYING ROOM (which can be utilized as a Godown) AND YARD,
and Inland Lots Nos. 742 & 743, upon which it stands, measuring about 24,000 square feet.

Also,
FOR SALE:—

1 HORIZONTAL STEAM ENGINE & BOILER.
1 McALPINE WASHING MACHINE for Heavy Work.
1 Do. New do.
2 ROTARY WASHING MACHINES for Family Work.
1 DASH WHEEL RINSING MACHINE.
1 „ do. New.
1 CENTRIFUGAL MACHINE for WRINGING.
1 NEST of FOUR COPPER BOILERS.
1 STARCHING MACHINE.
1 ROLLER WRINGING MACHINE.
2 IRON STOVES for HEATING IRONS.
1 COMPLETE DRYING CLOSET with twenty horses.
1 DECONDUN IRONING MACHINE.
1 „ „
1 MANGLE with driving and reversing gear.

A. O'D. GOURDIN,
Manager.

Hongkong, 28th January, 1887. |226

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED.

FOR an OUTPORT—A GENTLEMAN Competent to take Charge of the EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT of a daily paper.

Address, stating Salary, Qualifications, &c., &c., to

A. B.,
Care of VICTORIA HOTEL.

Hongkong, 15th February, 1887. [364

PERSEVERANCE LODGE OF HONGKONG,
No. 1165.

A REGULAR MEETING of the above LODGE will be held in the FREEMASONS' HALL, Zetland Street, on SATURDAY, the 19th instant, at 8.30 for 9 P.M. VISITING BRETHREN are cordially INVITED.

Hongkong, 15th February, 1887. [361

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instructions from the Captain SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE to Sell by Public Auction,

TO-MORROW,
the 16th February, 1887, at 11 A.M., at the Central Police Station.

SUNDRY UNSERVICEABLE STORES, &c.
Comprising:—
UNIFORMS, GREAT COATS, CAPES, HATS, BOOTS and SHOES, & CLOTHING.
And,
SUNDRY OTHER GOODS.

TERMS OF SALE.—As Customary.

J. M. ARMSTRONG,
Govt. Auctioneer.

Hongkong, 15th February, 1887. [362

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR AMOY AND TAIWANFOO.

THE Company's Steamship

"FORMOSA,"

Captain Harris, will be despatched for the above Ports TO-DAY, the 15th instant, at THREE P.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 14th February, 1887. [357

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY, AND FOOCHOW.

THE Company's Steamship

"NAMOA,"

Captain Pocock, will be despatched for the above Ports TO-MORROW, the 16th instant, at DAYLIGHT.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 14th February, 1887. |356

FOR BANGKOK DIRECT.

THE SCOTTISH ORIENTAL STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE Company's Steamer

"KONG BENG,"

Captain F. W. Phillips, will be despatched for the above Port TO-MORROW, the 16th instant, at TWO P.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
YUEN FAT HONG,
Agents.

Hongkong, 14th February, 1887. [359

FOR SHANGHAI.

THE Steamship

"YANGTSZE,"

Captain F. Schultz, will be despatched for the above Port TO-MORROW, the 16th inst., at FOUR P.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
SIEMSSEN & Co.

Hongkong, 15th February, 1887. [363

AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN LLOYD'S STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

STEAM FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO, BOMBAY, ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID, BRINDISI, & TRIESTE.

(Taking Cargo at through rates to CALCUTTA, MADRAS, PERSIAN GULF, BLACK SEA, LEVANT & ADRIATIC PORTS).

THE Company's Steamship

"THISBE,"

Captain L. Lemesich, will be despatched as above on the 22nd February, 1887, at NOON.

For Further Particulars regarding Freight and Passage, apply to the Agency of the Company, Praya Central.

O. BACHRACH,
Agent.

Hongkong, 14th February, 1887. [5

FOR SAIGON.

THE Steamship

"DEUTEROS,"

Captain Luthjens, will be despatched for the above Port on WEDNESDAY, the 23rd inst.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
SOY SHING,
No. 96, Bonham Strand.

Hongkong, 15th January, 1887. |360

UNION LINE.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM NEW YORK AND SINGAPORE.

THE Steamship

"DEVONSHIRE,"

Captain A. Purvis, having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading to the Undersigned for countersignature and to take immediate delivery of their Goods from alongside.

Cargo impeding the discharge of the steamer will be at once landed and stored at Consignees' risk and expense and no Fire Insurance will be effected.

All claims against the steamer must be presented to the undersigned on or before the 21st inst., or they will not be recognized.

RUSSELL & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 14th February, 1887. |358

LOST.

FROM ROBINSON ROAD—A LIVER AND WHITE SPANIEL PUP. The Finder will be rewarded if necessary on returning him to Office of this Paper.

Hongkong, 14th February, 1887. [348

LUSITANO CLUB.

TO-MORROW,
the 16th February, 1887, at 9 P.M.,

A MUSICAL CONCERT will be given by the AMATEUR PUPILS of MAESTRO CATTANEO, for the benefit of the ORPHANS OF THE ITALIAN CONVENT.

Admission ...... Not under One Dollar.

Tickets may be obtained at the LUSITANO CLUB, from SATURDAY, the 12th inst. from 10 A.M., and from MAESTRO CATTANEO from this date, at No. 9, Beaconsfield Arcade.

Hongkong, 9th February, 1887. [323

WANTED.

A FAMILY RESIDENCE of 5 or 6 Rooms, DETACHED HOUSE, with Immediate Possession or Later.

Address, Z.,
Care of *Daily Press* Office.

Hongkong, 6th January, 1887. 51

INTIMATION.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Communications on Editorial matters should be addressed "The Editor," and those on business "The Manager," and not to individuals by name.

Correspondents are requested to forward their name and address with communications addressed to the Editor, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith.

All letters for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.

Advertisements and Subscriptions which are not ordered for a fixed period will be continued until countermanded.

Orders for extra copies of the *Daily Press* should be sent before 11 a.m. on the day of publication. After that hour the supply is limited.

BIRTHS.

On Friday morning, the 11th February, at 13, Mosque-street, the wife of F. M. GUTIERREZ, of a daughter. [351

At Hung Hom Docks, British Kowloon, on the 14th instant, the Wife of JAMES R. MUDIE, of a daughter. [365

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, FEBRUARY 15TH, 1887.

SOME misapprehension seems to have arisen as to the scope of the Arms Bill now before the Legislative Council—a misapprehension in which, strange to say, at the last meeting of the Council both the Chief Justice and the Acting Attorney-General seemed to share. The Bill does not provide that a licence must be obtained for the possession of arms—except in the case of dealers—nor is the carrying of arms made illegal. All that the Ordinance does in this direction is to provide a penalty for carrying arms "without reasonable excuse, the proof of which shall lie upon" the person charged. If any one proved to the satisfaction of the magistrate that he was carrying a gun only for sporting purposes that of course would be accepted as a reasonable excuse. So again if a person were found carrying a revolver while walking on a country road and said he had it for his protection that also could hardly be refused as a reasonable excuse; at all events, we think no magistrate would refuse it in the case of any respectable person, whether European or Chinese. If the Bill said "Every person who shall without a licence from the Governor in Council and without reasonable excuse" carry arms, etc., it would bear the more sweeping construction; but, as the section (No. 3) stands, all that is required is a reasonable excuse and not a licence from the Governor. It is true the next section provides that the Governor in Council may from time to time grant licences to carry arms, from which it might be inferred that there had been some intention of making the taking out of licences compulsory, but if this be so the intention has not been embodied in the Ordinance. As it stands at present, the Governor may issue licences, but no one need apply for a licence, unless indeed he wants to carry arms "without reasonable excuse," which of course is absurd. In effect the Bill amounts simply to this, that if the Police find a person carrying arms they may call upon him to prove before a Magistrate that he does not intend to use them for any unlawful purpose. We may take it for granted, also, that the Police will interfere only in the case of suspicious characters. The Bill may be amended so as to make the taking out of a licence compulsory, but as it stands we fail to see that the portion of it affecting the carrying of arms will be of much use. It is already an offence for any Chinese not being the holder of a night pass to carry any deadly weapon, whether by day or night, and presumably the criminal classes who carry arms for unlawful purposes are not supplied with night passes. In the debate in Council the Acting Attorney-General said it was necessary to have some control over the carrying of arms, and mentioned the fact that an armed band had been seen on the Praya one night during the previous week in possession of opium. The question naturally suggests itself, were the persons composing this band in possession of night passes? If not, why were they not prosecuted for unlawfully carrying deadly weapons? If they were in possession of night passes, were those passes cancelled? The Executive are not justified in asking the Legislature to give them larger powers unless they can show they have made the best use of those they already possess. It is of course most desirable that criminals such as the men who assaulted the Rev. Mr. ROSS-LEWIN should if possible be prevented from acquiring arms, or should be deprived of any they may have. But the Bill does not touch cases such as these. There is no restriction placed on the sale of arms. A burglar wishing to be armed with a revolver in the prosecution of his ventures has nothing to do but to go into the first shop he comes to and buy one. It is not to be expected that he will apply to the Governor for a licence, nor that he will take the Police into his confidence, so that practically things will remain as they are. Nor will they be in any way improved by making it compulsory to take out a licence. In that case the Hon. P. RYRIE would take out a licence for his ancient stand of arms, and the other law-abiding members of the community would follow suit, but the criminal classes would do nothing so particularly foolish. The only effectual way to prevent highwaymen and others having possession of arms is to stop the sale, to make the possession of arms without a licence illegal, and to organise a house to house search for illegally possessed weapons. This course is impracticable. The next best thing is to make the punishment for assaults with firearms so severe as to inspire terror amongst the criminals. To require everyone to take out a licence for the possession of firearms, while leaving their sale free, would simply be to impose trouble and annoyance on the law-abiding portion of the community and a vast amount of clerical labour on the Government departments concerned without in any way touching the criminal classes.

The Bill provides also that dealers and importers of arms are to take out an annual licence, for which they are to pay a fee of $5. They are also to make returns of all the arms imported or bought by them, and a central magazine is to be provided to which the Governor may during times of disturbance order the removal of all arms. It is supposed that in case of the occurrence of a riot there might be a danger of the mob attempting to possess themselves of the arms in the shops and using them. The danger appears to us a somewhat remote one. A mob is not usually characterised by coolness or judgment, and supposing it did conceive the project of arming itself and made a raid on the shops for that purpose the result would be that the rioters would possess themselves of miscellaneous weapons and equally miscellaneous cartridges which would become mixed up to such an extent that they would be useless. Sticks and stones are much more formidable weapons in the hands of an angry mob than firearms, because they know how to use the former, whereas the latter would only be an incumbrance to them. It is conceivable, however, that occasions might arise when it would be advisable to have all the stocks of arms in the Colony gathered together for safe keeping in a central depôt, and no harm can be done by entrusting the Governor with power to order that this be done. It would be useful, however, in that case to know what stocks there were in the Colony, and for this the Ordinance makes no provision. Importers and dealers have to furnish a monthly statement of all arms imported or bought by them during the previous month, but they are not required to state what quantities they have sold nor what their remaining stock is. Figures of the imports will be interesting from a trade point of view, but standing alone they will be of little use for the purposes of the Ordinance. This, however, is a minor point, as power of search is given, and there will be little difficulty in finding all the stocks there may be. The dealers indeed would probably be only too glad to have their goods removed to a place of safety in case of any disturbance. No difficulty was experienced in inducing them to transfer their stocks to the Police compound during the cargo boat riots. It was deemed advisable at that time to have all the arms removed from the Chinese quarter of the town, but after consideration, we think, must have convinced any one that the precaution was unnecessary. The quantity was very large, certainly, but of what use would a miscellaneous assortment of weapons without any proper provision of cartridges have been to an unorganised mob of street coolies, few of whom had ever had a musket in their hands? Swords and spears would have been more dangerous, no doubt, but the mob showed no inclination to obtain them and were quite satisfied with their carrying poles and stones. There can, however, be no objection to giving the Governor the proposed power, for it is always well to be on the safe side; but as to the other branch of the Ordinance, dealing with the carrying of arms, it simply goes far enough to possibly cause trouble and annoyance and not far enough to do any good.

The American gunboat *Monocacy*, Commander Henry Glass, left here yesterday for Canton.

The British corvette *Cleopatra* arrived at Singapore on the 7th inst. from Nagasaki direct.

The Agent informs us that the Austro-Hungarian Lloyd's steamer *Thisbe*, from Trieste, left Singapore on Sunday morning for this port.

The British troopship *Himalaya* left here yesterday morning for Port Hamilton for the purpose of embarking the Garrison and establishment there.

A Choral Festival will be held in St. John's Cathedral on Tuesday, the 22nd inst., at 5.30 p.m., at which Gaul's Cantata "The Holy City" will be sung by the Hongkong Choral Society.

We hear that the steamer *San Pablo*, of the Occidental and Oriental Co.'s line, has been temporarily withdrawn from the service to be docked at San Francisco. The passenger accommodation of this vessel has hitherto been on a much smaller scale than that of the other vessels of the fleet, and this is now to be greatly increased, so as to place her on a par with them in this respect. She will have a saloon and state rooms to meet the requirements of 75 first class passengers. The vessel is expected to resume her place on the line on the 21st April next, as per schedule, thus missing one trip.

To-night at the Theatre Royal, City Hall, Salinger's English Opera Company will perform Planquette's well known and popular comic opera "Les Cloches de Corneville." It will be seen by reference to the advertisement on our front page that "The Mikado" is fixed for Thursday, and on Saturday the Company will perform "The Grand Duchess of Gerolstein."

The following telegrams appear in the *Courrier d'Haiphong*:—"Thanh-Hoa, 8th February. Colonel Brissaud has taken another fortified position. The rebels suffered serious loss. Our loss was seven men killed and two officers, Lieut. Forey and Sub-Lieutenant De Thuisy, seriously wounded." "Cao-Bang, 8th February. Chinese pirates have attacked Do-Sat. Commandant Servière is leaving Cao-Bang with a column to relieve the company defending Do-Sat."

The Italian cruiser *Rapido*, Captain Cravosio, arrived in Singapore on the 6th inst. from Tonquin. The *Straits Times* says that the *Rapido* has come to meet His Excellency Signor De Lucca, Italian Minister to China and Japan, and who is expected to arrive in Singapore in the M. M. steamer *Oxus* from Europe on a diplomatic mission to His Majesty the King of Siam. His Excellency will be accompanied by the popular Italian Consul, the Marquis de Goyzueta.

An Indian watchman named Peer Bhoi was yesterday brought before the Police Court charged with having threatened to murder an Indian police sergeant named Sheik Allim. It is alleged that the prisoner accuses the sergeant of having caused a Chinawoman with whom he lived to run away from him, and a day or two since he went to Sheik Allim's house and asked for that individual, who happened to be out at the time. The prisoner was asked what he wanted with Allim, and he said he wanted to murder him, and showed a fan dagger. Later on he was at the Police Station looking for the sergeant, and he told an Indian there he was going to murder him, and showed a revolver. The case stands remanded.

The *Courrier d'Haiphong* says that Tonquin has been traversed by engineers examining the country with a view to the construction of railways. Discussing the various lines proposed, our contemporary urges the importance of proceeding first with the line connecting Dap-Cau and Langson and that connecting Hanoi and Laokai. These, it argues, are necessary for strategic purposes, and the line to Laokai is also the most important commercially, as it will serve the Yunnan trade, which is the *raison d'être* of the colony. At present there is very little activity in that trade. The route has been less secure of late, and merchants have recalled or countermanded their expeditions, being discouraged by the difficulties of the navigation. "In a few months the wet season will be here," the article goes on to say, "and it will take six or seven weeks to arrive at Laokai by junk, exposed to dangers of all descriptions. At present hauling stations are being established, which will prove a great assistance; but it is necessary to do more than that: the Yunnan route must be completely opened so that trade may use it freely. It will be in taking the first locomotive to Laokai that the great work will be accomplished which will render the colony prosperous and assure its future."

The *Japan Mail* says:—"We learn that a telegram has been received from Captain J. M. James, dated at Manila the 29th ultimo, announcing that so far, no trace whatsoever had been found of the missing *Unebi-kan*. The *Nagato Maru* would, however, prosecute her journey to Singapore as originally intended. There is still some uncertainty as to the number of Japanese who were in the ship. It is supposed that there were three officers and eight naval artificers, but as the latter had applied for passages on their own account, there is a possibility that they may not have embarked in the *Unebi* after all. Certainly the disappearance of the vessel is most mysterious. One would imagine that, whatever fate befel her, some trace ought to be forthcoming. It is of course conceivable that she may have been driven out into the Pacific Ocean in a disabled condition. In such an event, the long interval that has passed without any tidings would be easily explicable. There are now four vessels searching for the *Unebi*, two British men-of-war and two Japanese steamers"—We do not believe that there is now the smallest ground for hoping that the ill-fated cruiser will be heard of or seen again. It is one of those sad disasters, which happily seldom happen, that leave no survivors to tell the story. The Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru* arrived in Singapore on the 7th inst., and reports that all search for the missing cruiser *Unebi-kan* has been fruitless.

Long deferred, owing to the lengthened spell of wet weather, the Football Match Public Schools *v.* the Club, under Rugby Rules, will be played at the Race Course at 4.30 this afternoon. If the players all turn up whose names are down on the list it will be by far the most numerously contested match of the season, and should prove a most interesting game, with more than the usual proportion of tight scrimmages. There will be a tent for the ladies, with tea, cake, &c., and with the present delightful weather there should be a large attendance. The ground is now in very good order. The following are the sides:—

PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

R. W. Brooks, Capt. (Wellington College).
C. E Lawrie, (Eton).
G. A. Bramwell, (Marlborough).
M. D. Graham, (Haileybury).
Capt. Collinson, (Rugby).
A. B. H. Drew, (Wellington).
H. C. Metcalfe, (Cambridge).
H. N. Thompson, (Trinity Col., Dublin).
N. R. S. Crawford, (Clifton).
D. H. Mackintosh, (Glenalmond).
R. K. Brown, (Glenalmond).
W. Sabington, (Cheltenham).
H. Broke, (Clifton).
C. S. Prichard, (Marlborough).
G. F. H. Potts, (Harrow).
N. G. Mitchell-Innes, (Repton).

THE CLUB (PLAIN JERSEYS).

Back.
H. F. Hayllar.

¾ Backs.
D. Saunders. A. H. Jackson.
C. A. Cornish.

½ Backs.
J. Gow. F. Jarvis.

Forwards.
P. R. Simmons. D. Kennedy.
J. D. Anderson. F. H. Shepherd.
C. P. Pedler. J. C. Edmonds.
J. H. S. Lockhart. H. C. Peel.
J. P. Brewin. Lt. Gleig, R.N.
H. G. Smith.

On Sunday afternoon another case of robbery occurred in this colony, at the residence of Mr. J. H. Cox, No. 2, West Villas. Mr. and Mrs. Cox have been in the habit of going to their matshed at Kowloon on Sunday mornings, and remaining there for the day. Last Sunday morning they both went as usual, taking with them a boy and cook, and leaving their house in charge of a house coolie, with whom was a small boy, the cook's assistant. After tiffin the boy left Kowloon and returned to his master's house, which he reached shortly after four. On endeavouring to enter by the back door he found it locked, and going round to the front he found that locked also. He tried for some time to get in by the windows from the verandah, but failing that he went to Mr. Caldwell's house next door, and borrowed the back door key. With this he was able to open his door, and obtained access to the house. He looked round the place, being suspicious that something was amiss, and in Mr. Cox's bedroom found a wardrobe had been broken open, and a drawer forced. He sent for Mr. Cox, and also sent a man down to the two night steamers leaving for Canton to look for the coolie, in case he might be endeavouring to escape by them, but the latter came back and reported that the coolie did not leave by those steamers. When Mr. and Mrs. Cox arrived they found that the latter's wardrobe had been forced open, apparently with a chisel, and her jewel box which had also been broken open, abstracted. Some other portable articles were also missing, and the value of the booty the thief is believed to have carried off is believed to be about $300. The coolie had evidently also been at work at Mr. Cox's wardrobe, but had failed to force the door open, and contented himself with Mrs. Cox's jewels and such small things of value as he could pick up on the spot. He must have left the house at about three o'clock, and locked all the doors behind him. On questioning the small boy Mr. Cox learned from him that he had heard the coolie making a noise upstairs before this time, and soon after that he (the boy) went out for a walk. Mr. Cox at once acquainted the Police with what he knew of the matter, and an officer ascertained that the missing coolie was in the habit of frequenting a certain house. He proceeded thither, and found the bird had been there, but had flown, for a box was found belonging to Mrs. Cox. One man, said to be a brother of the coolie, has been arrested on suspicion of complicity, but the coolie himself has not yet been found, nor any of the missing property. It is to be feared that he has made good his escape from the colony with his plunder, as he had about three hours' start of the Police.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

[SUPPLIED TO THE "DAILY PRESS."]

LONDON, 11th February.

MR. PARNELL AND THE GOVERNMENT.

Mr. Parnell's amendment to the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne was rejected.

THE LONDON PRESS AND THE NEUTRALIZATION OF EGYPT.

The London Press oppose the neutralization of Egypt.

ANOTHER PROBABLE CANARD.

It is reported that a large Russian squadron has been ordered to assemble in Japanese waters.

THE LAWN TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIP.

The last of the preliminary heats for the Lawn Tennis Championship of Hongkong was played on the Cricket Ground yesterday afternoon between Mr. E. J. Coxon and Dr. A. de C. Scanlan. There was a very large attendance of ladies and gentlemen on the ground to witness the game, a very keen interest being taken in it. Coxon was a strong favourite, but a good game was nevertheless expected. Coxon had the good fortune to win the toss, and he started with a decided advantage in consequence of pick of side, for his opponent had to play with a strong slanting sun in his face. The play proved very one-sided, Coxon placing the balls splendidly, and winning the first set by six games to one. Scanlan seemed hardly up to concert pitch, and was not playing so well as in the previous heats. On changing ends the sun had just dipped below the crest of the Peak, so that conditions as to light were then pretty even. Coxon continued to overmatch his opponent, winning the first three games very easily. The fourth game was a very hotly contested one, and Scanlan held the lead till he stood vantage. He then returned a ball which would have gone well out, and failing to get it in, the game went back to deuce. Coxon then obtained vantage, but again lost the point, and Scanlan making the next two points by some very smart play, secured a game. Scanlan played somewhat better form this time, and though he did not succeed in winning another game, he pushed Coxon very hard for the remaining three. The match thus ended in favour of Coxon by two sets, each of 6—1, to love.

There now only remain E. J. Coxon and Bruce-Robertson to compete for the championship, the latter having drawn a bye for the last round of preliminary heats. They will play off the final to-morrow at four p.m. Coxon is a strong favourite.

THE ALICE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL.

We have been requested to publish the following notice in reference to the opening of the Alice Memorial Hospital:—

The Medical Committee of the Alice Memorial Hospital cordially invite and will be glad to meet all who are desirous of viewing the building on Wednesday, the 16th instant, between the hours of 3 and 6 p.m.

The Hospital will be open for the reception of patients of all nationalities, on and after Thursday, the 17th instant. The hours of attendance for out-patients will be 9.30 to 11 o'clock every morning, Sundays excepted. Those seeking admission as in-patients must also attend at this hour. Urgent cases will be admitted at all hours.

—There being only a small fund available for the feeding of destitute Chinese, residents recommending their servants as in-patients must guarantee the payment of expenses incurred for the food and medical necessities of such, to the extent, if necessary, of $5 per mensem, or less, as the case may be. Other patients coming without a recommendation and able to pay, must do so to the same amount.

JOHN CHALMERS, General Secretary.
G. P. JORDAN, M.D., Medical Secretary.

THE LEKIN ON OPIUM.

The following documents have been handed to us for publication by the Acting Secretary of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce:—

H.B.M. CONSUL, CANTON, TO THE ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY, HONGKONG.

H.B.M. Consulate,
Canton, February 9th, 1887.

Sir,—I have the honour to enclose for the information of His Excellency the Acting Governor, a proclamation issued by the Viceroy and Hoppo with regard to the increase of the *lekin* levied by the stations outside Hongkong on Opium.

His Excellency will observe that the stations are not simply preventive stations established to prevent smuggling out of China into Hongkong, but that they collect there *lekin*, *i.e.*, provincial dues (as the duties collected by the Customs are Imperial dues) on cargo leaving Hongkong with a view probably of being subsequently imported into China but before it actually is so; in other words, that they are stations for the collection of export duties on merchandise carried out of the Colony.

I have, &c.,
CHAL. ALABASTER,
Consul.

The Hon. F. Stewart, LL.D.

[*Translation.*]

JOINT PROCLAMATION BY THE VICEROY AND SUPERINTENDENT OF CUSTOMS.

With reference to the simultaneous collection of duty and lekin on Foreign Opium, we received on the 15th January a telegram from the Tsung-li Yamên, stating that the provincial Lekin offices would cease to collect duty and lekin on foreign opium on the 31st January, and that the whole business would devolve on the Foreign Customs on the 1st of February; that, as it would be impossible to send Custom's officers in time to the six stations near Hongkong and Macao, the officers in charge of the said Customs and stations would for the time being collect duty and lekin according to the new scale of Taels 110 per hundred catties, and the Customs would carry out the simultaneous collection from the 1st of April.

Having received the above, we duly issue this joint proclamation for the information of Chinese and Foreign merchants and people.

In future, when you import foreign opium you will, if it passes the Foreign Customs, simultaneously pay duty and lekin to the amount of Taels 110 on every hundred catties, in accordance with the new regulations, from the 1st of February. If it passes the native Custom-houses, you will, in accordance with the old regulations, continue for the time being to pay both duty and lekin, and the amount will be a total of Taels 110 per hundred catties. From the 1st of April, the simultaneous collection will be carried out by the Customs.

You must make payment at once; let there not be the least delay, doubt or indecision. Such as disobey will be punished.

A Special Proclamation.
January 31st, 1887.

Translated by:—
(Sd.) ALEX. HOSIE.

CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED

The following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the eighteenth ordinary meeting, to be held at the Company's offices, at 3 p.m. on Tuesday, the 22nd inst.:—

The directors have the pleasure to present the usual statement of the company's accounts made up to the 31st December last.

1885.—The balance at credit of working account, as per last report, was		$228,811.67
Deduct dividend of $3.00 per share paid in 1886	$60,000.00	
Losses and claims under 1885 policies paid in 1886	22,051.91	
Return premia, &c., &c., paid in 1886	3,880.43	
		85,932.34
Balance of profit		$142,879.33

The directors propose to deal with this amount as follows: $60,000 as a final dividend of $3 per share (making $6 for the year); $37,079.33 as bonus on contributions of premia by shareholders, and the balance, $45,800.00, to reserve fund, increasing this account to $612,500, which it is hoped will meet with the approval of the shareholders.

1886.—The result of this year's working so far is satisfactory, and the directors propose to pay a first dividend of $3.00 per share out of the earnings.

DIRECTORS.

The Hon. P. Ryrie and Mr. W. H. F. Darby retire from the Board by rotation and offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

Mr. J. Melville-Matson having left the colony, the directors appointed Mr. Robert Lyall to act with Mr. J. H. Cox in auditing the accounts now presented. Both gentlemen are eligible for re-election.

P. RYRIE, Chairman.

BALANCE SHEET, 31ST DECEMBER, 1886.

LIABILITIES.

Capital account		$ 400,000.00
Reserve fund		612,500.00
Accounts payable:—		
Final dividend for 1885	$60,000.00	
Bonus for 1885 and outstanding accounts	45,877.87	
		105,877.87
Working account 1886—Balance at credit		243,738.44
		$1,362,116.31

ASSETS.

Cash at Bankers		$ 37,013.32
Fixed deposits at Banks		430,000.00
Invested in bonds:—		
Chinese Imp. Govt. loan 1881	$ 34,124.87	
" " 1884 B. C. & E.	322,975.00	
		357,099.87
Loans on mortgage:—		
On properties in Hongkong	$276,200.00	
" " Shanghai	171,312.70	
		447,512.70
Mei Chun Li, Shanghai property, (foreclosed)		41,809.54
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co.'s shares		522.00
Furniture account—Office furniture, &c.		387.00
Fire engine account—Steam fire engine at Shanghai, &c.		3,470.00
Accounts receivable—Premia due from Agencies, interest due on deposits and investments, &c.		44,301.88
		$1,362,116.31

WORKING ACCOUNT, 1ST JANUARY TO 31ST DECEMBER, 1886.

Dr.

To charges account:—		
Rent, salaries, legal and surveyor's fees, stamps, stationery, &c.	$16,880.58	
Directors' and auditors' fees	7,250.00	
		$24,130.58
To fire engine working account:—		
Half cost of maintaining steam fire engines and Volunteer brigades		5,004.77
To commission account—Agents' commissions		13,859.07
To losses account 1886—Claims accruing to this year paid		14,890.29
To amounts written off:—		
Furniture account	$ 43.00	
Fire engine account	381.60	
Balance due from Martin, Dyce & Co.'s estate	115.74	
		540.34
To balance		243,738.44
		$302,163.49

Cr.

By premium account:—		
Net amount of premia collected	$224,062.41	
Less re-insurances	6,012.07	
		$218,050.34
By interest account—Amount at credit, including interest due on fixed deposits, &c.		79,444.38
By exchange account—Amount at credit		4,161.38
By transfer fee account—Amount at credit		507.39
		$302,163.49

POLICE COURT.

14th February.

BEFORE MR. H. E. WODEHOUSE.

THE GOLD NUGGET TRICK.

Chan Afong, hawker, was charged with having stolen $11 in money and other articles, by means of a trick, from a woman named Wong Sui Ying, on the 5th inst.

The complainant said that on the 5th she was near her home in Wanchai when the prisoner asked her the way to the Central District, telling her he was a stranger to the place. She told him the way, and then he informed her that a friend of his, who had returned from emigration had been fortunate enough to find some nuggets of gold, and he called up another man, who showed her two bits of metal which they assured her was gold. The prisoner advised her to buy them, but she declined, and then they asked her if she would pawn them. The woman agreed to do this and went into a pawnshop with the two nuggets, leaving her basket, containing $11 and some small articles outside in the charge of the two men. She was soon informed that the nuggets were valueless, and on going out found that the two men had decamped with her basket. She gave information to the Police, and the prisoner was subsequently arrested.

The prisoner was sentenced to six months' hard labour.

LARCENIES.

Chan Ayau, coolie, was sentenced to three weeks' hard labour for stealing a pair of shoes from the Mi Cheung shop, Queen's-road West, on the 12th inst., and he was sentenced to three weeks' hard labour.

Sin Kuu Wan, coolie, for stealing 14lbs. of sugar, value 70 cents, at the Quarry Bay Sugar Refinery on Sunday last, was sent to gaol for a fortnight.

Ng Akai, coolie, in the employ of Mr. W. Cruickshank of the Victoria Dispensary, was before the court, on remand, on a charge of stealing a box of rubber, a razor, and a few other things, the property of his employer, on the 11th inst.

It was stated that the defendant took the things from cases in the store. Mr. Cruickshank did not press for a heavy penalty, it being as far as he knew, the prisoner's first offence.

The prisoner was sentenced to six weeks' hard labour.

DISORDERLY CONDUCT.

Robert Hugh Woodford and John Morgford, engineers, were charged with having been drunk and disorderly in the street on the 13th inst.

P. Cs. James and Gilmour stated that the defendants, who were with others, after midnight, being under the influence of liquor, behaved in a disorderly manner. They told them to be quiet and go home, but the defendants at once entered into a loud altercation with them, and ultimately they arrested the two.

The defendants denied that they were either drunk or disorderly. They were merely talking in an orderly way when James came up and interfered quite unnecessarily telling them to go home in an offensive way. They told him they could go where they pleased, and after some more words James slapped Woodford's face, after which the constables arrested them.

James Smith Murray, engineer, gave similar evidence, and Frederick Sennet, clerk, lately in the employ of the Laundry Company, was also called, but he gave more qualified evidence. He should not say the complainants were drunk, but they were not sober.

P.S. Baker said that when the defendants were brought to the Station they were under the influence of liquor, and were very turbulent and insolent there.

The first defendant, who had previously been convicted of drunkenness, was fined $2, and the second $1.

ALLEGED KIDNAPPING.

Wong Alin, married woman, was charged with having decoyed to Singapore for the purposes of prostitution a woman named Wong Ying Kam on the 25th ult.

The complainant said that at her native place she met the prisoner, who asked her what she was doing. She said she was a servant, and the defendant advised her to accompany her to Singapore, where she would get vastly higher wages in the same capacity. She agreed to go, and they came on to Hongkong. Both here and at Singapore the defendant gave her instructions as to what answer she was to give, so as to avoid the vigilance of the emigration officers, and she was passed through. When she had been at Singapore a month, however, she found the defendant had sold her for $230 to a man who came for her with a gharry. She refused to go with the man, and raised such an outcry that she brought out the neighbours, and the kaifong took the matter up. The result of this action was that the Singapore authorities sent her back to Hongkong. She had been here a short time when she met with the prisoner, whom she caused to be arrested. The complainant said that the prisoner had also taken her sister and two other women to Singapore at the same time, and she did not know what had become of them.

The prisoner denied the decoying, and said the prisoner had gone of her own accord, and this charge was brought in consequence of a quarrel.

The case was remanded for a week.

BEFORE MR. E. MACKEAN.

THREATENING TO MURDER.

Peer Bhoi, watchman, was charged with having threatened to murder P. S. Sheik Allim.

The case was remanded for a week.

OPIUM CASE.

Tsang Sam Lung, stone cutter, was fined $5, and in default was sent to gaol for ten days for possession of prepared opium without a permit from the Opium Farmer.

CANTON.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

14th February.

A fire broke out about 8 o'clock p.m. on Saturday, the 12th inst., in Yuen Chong Street in the Western Suburb (the site of Messrs. Russell & Co.'s old hong), and before it could be got under control it destroyed six shops, exclusive of two others that were pulled down to check the progress of the flames. Among the buildings burned down was the branch office of the *Kwang-pao*, the new Chinese daily paper, but as the paper is not printed there it will suffer no serious inconvenience. The fire originated in an empty shop, and is supposed to have been the work of an incendiary.

It will be remembered that a serious fire occurred in the same locality only last month, when a large number of well stocked shops were totally destroyed.

MACAO.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

11th February.

During the past week there has been little news to chronicle. A Government notification has been issued calling for tenders for the Pork Farm, which should be sent in not later than the 25th instant, each tender to be accompanied by a deposit of $1,000. Tenders for the illumination of the City by kerosine oil have also been invited.

The works on the extension of the Praya have been progressing near Patane, opposite to Green Island. I am glad to observe that the granite work and the filling in are far superior to the work which forms the old Praya of this colony, and reflects great credit on our energetic Surveyor-General, Sr. Horta e Costa, who has taken great pains to make it substantial. Sr. Costa has always manifested much interest in the welfare of this colony and has endowed it with many improvements.

It is said that His Excellency the Governor and the Surveyor-General have in consideration a great enterprise which they intend to start at Patane, and will lay their views some time next week. It is to be hoped that some public Company or syndicate will take it up when those views are made public. Business in boat and junk building is being actively carried on in this locality, no less than forty or fifty ship-yards being in full swing, and the quantity of lumber stored is enormous. This activity is partly owing to extensive orders from other places.

The boats' refuge is also in this place. It is a large basin enclosed by four strong granite walls with two entrances, over which are thrown substantial bridges which serve as footway. This haven of refuge is a credit to this port.

The three silk filatures have been working very hard lately. They are run entirely by Chinese, and steam forms the motive power of their machinery. Some 500 to 600 women are daily employed by each of these manufactories; their outturn must therefore be considerable.

Yesterday an entertainment was given at the Italian Convent, when a drama and farce were performed by the girls under the care of the Sisters. The performance proved a success, and the performers and promoters were well repaid for the pains they have taken in the matter. The proceeds will go to the orphans of the institution, and Senhora Costa may be congratulated upon the result which she has been the prime mover in bringing about. His Excellency the Governor was prevented by indisposition from being present at the performance.

COAST AND RIVER NAVIGATION IN CHINA.

There is no necessity for us to show the immense good which an extension of steam navigation on the Yangtsze and its introduction on the Pearl River would be to China. Foreigners understand that, and so do enlightened officials and a great many intelligent Chinese. The opening of the Upper Yangtsze to steamers is provided for by the Chefoo Convention, and although difficulties were thrown in the way of the companies who were prepared last year to undertake a survey of that part of the great river, we hope these will soon be overcome. Circumstances were somewhat unfavourable at the time; the riot at Chungking had occurred, and some of the districts and places between Ichang and that city were in a disturbed condition. We can very well understand that the local officials were extremely averse to anything being done which might excite the animosity of considerable classes, already not too well disposed to the governing powers, as the preparation for the introduction of new modes of transit would very likely have done. But the present Viceroy of Szechuen, who has taken office since then, is credited with being an able administrator, and he will doubtless soon rescue affairs from whatever disorder they fell into after the death of his distinguished predecessor. We have hopes that when this has been done there will no longer be any reluctance shown by the officials to the fulfilment of the Chefoo Convention. But as the officials in this country never hurry themselves, and prefer to leave till a remote to-morrow what should be done at once, the Ministers at Peking should use their influence to have the way prepared for the free survey of the Upper Yangtsze. The survey can only be efficiently done by steam-launches, or small craft somewhat similar, and the objections of the local authorities to these should be removed by orders from their superiors. Navigation by steam of that part of China's inland waters is on a different footing as regards foreigners from that on the rivers in other provinces, to which we now wish to direct attention.

But besides the opposition which a system of steam navigation would encounter from what we may class as vested interests,—officials in the imposts and capitalists and labouring people in the ancient ways of conducting trade,—there is a reluctance among the higher officials to the introduction of steamers which so far as we know has not been publicly expressed by them. It is a very strongly felt objection, is quite natural, and has hitherto stood in the way of steamers being allowed to ply on the Pearl River. It is, that if once steamers under the Chinese flag are introduced there, foreigners will put pressure on the Government at Peking to allow steamers under the flags of the Treaty Powers to share in the traffic. There are no Navigation Laws in China as in the United States, by which steamers of aliens can be excluded from any part of the coast or river traffic, and possibly the authorities doubt whether China would be able to maintain them under certain circumstances, if they were instituted. There does not appear, therefore, to the official mind any course open except to prevent all steam traffic on the rivers on which there are no ports open by Treaty. We may almost say that it is this dread of their being, probably at an early date, pressed to allow the Foreign flags to follow the Chinese in the Pearl River, which has prevented Chinese steamers being permitted to run there. There are other waters in China where steam transit might be advantageously and profitably introduced by native capitalists. The Poyang and Tungting lakes, for instance, carry a great traffic in passengers and goods, and more rapid means of communication on them would be an immense benefit not only to the Chinese in the neighbouring and other districts, but to foreign commerce. The greater part of the new trade which would be created, and the increase in the present trade would be with foreigners and in foreign articles. No doubt there would be a large extension of the exchange of purely native commodities, but, along with this, more foreign imports would be taken. It is always so where communications are improved. Steam navigation for these waters can, however, wait, until the good it has done to other districts shall have become so well known generally in China, that it will be adopted as a necessity. But on the coast there is a good deal to be done to extend steam navigation, and we are glad to learn that an effort is likely to be made to establish purely Chinese steam communication between certain ports in the Gulf of Pechili, contiguous to the principal strawbraid producing districts, which are not open to foreign trade, and Chefoo, and we sincerely trust that the intentions of the promoters may be brought to a successful issue, and that this will be the forerunner of many similar "feeding" lines all over China. Apart from the increase of all trade, and in the export branch in particular, which such enterprises will bring about, they, if successful, will give to Chinese capitalists that confidence in industrial undertakings the want of which is one of the main obstacles to the material progress of the nation. In respect of founding and carrying on coast and river lines of steamers for the general trade of places at which foreigners may not establish themselves, the Chinese are behind their neighbours the Japanese. Every week brings fresh proofs of the rapidity with which the coast trade of Japan is being diverted from sailing vessels, and junks, to steamers. Every seaside commercial town, whether a sea-port or not, seems to have its steamship owners, either private individuals or public companies, and their steamers are worked apparently entirely by the natives themselves without foreign assistance. We are told that the craft are of all sizes up to sea going steamers, and that they have done an immense deal of good to the country. The smaller ones, at all events, are Japan built; they are understood to be profitable, and in former years, to have earned extraordinary returns. We are accustomed to consider Japan a poor country, and so it is, as compared with China, but it has evidently a very large interport trade, and its traders have realised the superior advantages in the way of speed and certainty which steam communication offers, as compared with sail.—*N. C. Daily News.*

LATE TELEGRAMS.

The following telegrams are taken from the *Rangoon Gazette*:—

THE OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

LONDON, 27th January.

Parliament was opened to-day by Royal Commission. Her Majesty, in her Speech from the Throne, which was read by the Lord Chancellor, says:—"My relations with all Foreign Powers continue to be friendly. Affairs in South Eastern Europe are still in an unsettled state, but I do not apprehend that any disturbance of the peace in that quarter will result therefrom. While deploring the events which compelled Prince Alexander of Bulgaria to retire, I have not judged it expedient to interfere in the election of his successor, until the stage arrived at which my assent is required, in accordance with the terms of the Treaty of Berlin.

The task I have undertaken in Egypt is as yet unfinished, but a substantial advance has been made by the assurance of Internal and External quietude.

The operations of my forces in Burmah have been conducted with bravery and skill. In the task of extirpating brigandage, which has grown during the recent years of misrule, bands of marauders which infested Upper Burmah have been dispersed, and many leaders have submitted, and I feel confident in the hope that a general pacification of that country will be effected during the present season.

The condition of Ireland still requires my anxious attention, though the grave crimes which prevailed there are happily rarer. The relations between the landowners and occupiers, which early in the Autumn had improved, have been seriously disturbed by the organized attempts made to incite the latter to combine against the fulfilment of their legal obligations; my efforts to cope with the evil have been seriously impeded by the formalities of the existing statutes, and your early attention will be called to the proposals for reform in procedure, in order to secure prompt and efficient operation of the criminal law. The report of the Land Tenure Commission in Ireland will doubtless receive your early and careful attention."

Her Majesty then enumerates the measures to be brought forward during the Session, the principal of which are bills for the improvement of Local Government in England and Scotland and, afterwards, Ireland; to facilitate small allotments and the sale of Glebe lands; to transfer land and alter the mode of levying tithes; and to regulate railway rates.

DEBATE ON THE ADDRESS.

LONDON, 28th January.

The House of Lords last night voted the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne.

Lord Salisbury said that the resignation of Lord Randolph Churchill, which appeared to his colleagues to be a hasty step, was a loss to the Cabinet and entirely due to his Lordship's patriotic desire for the economy. Lord Salisbury hoped, however, that the difference would not last for long. He welcomed the accession of Mr. Goschen to the Cabinet. With regard to Bulgaria, he denied that England sought to restore Prince Alexander to the throne. The British Government did not oppose the extension of Russian influence, provided it did not become a domination fatal to the interests of Europe. The vast and increasing armaments in Europe were a source of danger, though lately they had not been increased, and Lord Lyons, at Paris, and Sir Edward Malet, at Berlin, had declared the feeling at those capitals to be peaceful.

In the House of Commons, Viscount Weymouth moved the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne. In the debate which followed, Mr. Gladstone endorsed the remarks made by Lord Randolph Churchill in explanation of his resignation. He attributed the plan of campaign in Ireland to the absence of a provision on the part of the Government for the distress prevailing there.

Mr. W. H. Smith said, the Government did not desire to interfere in Foreign complications, but would act in conformity with existing treaties. He invited the influence of Mr. Gladstone, as the head of the Irish Nationalists, to restore order, in view of the reform in Local Government.

The debate was adjourned.

STATEMENT BY LORD R. CHURCHILL.

LONDON, 27th January.

This evening Lord Randolph Churchill made a statement in reference to his resigning his seat in the Cabinet. His Lordship said the estimates for the Army and Navy being, in his opinion, excessive, for a genuinely peaceful policy which he considered was incumbent on England, and his colleagues declining to retrench them, he tendered his resignation. Lord Salisbury wrote that the outlay was necessary for the defence of our coaling stations, as he was of opinion that the chances were in favour of war at an early date. Lord Randolph then said that he refused to acquiesce in joining in the desperate stakes for which the other nations were playing.

LONDON, 24th January.

The following is the result of the polling for the election of a representative of the Exchange Division of Liverpool, rendered vacant by the death of Mr. D. Duncan (Gladstonian Liberal).

Mr. Ralph Neville (Gladstonian Liberal) 3,222, The Right Hon. George Goschen (Unionist Liberal) 3,211.

A recount of the votes will take place to-morrow.

LONDON, 27th January.

A recount of votes at Liverpool has failed to discover any irregularity, and Mr. Ralph Neville has therefore been declared elected member for the Exchange Division in the House of Commons.

FRANCE AND GERMANY.

PARIS, 25th January.

The statement made by the London *Daily News*, respecting the relations between France and Germany have been officially denied here.

BERLIN, 25th January.

It is officially denied here that there is any truth in the statement made by the London *Daily News* respecting France and Germany.

BERLIN, 26th January.

A decree has been issued by the German Government forbidding the export of horses.

BULGARIA AND THE POWERS.

CONSTANTINOPLE, 26th January.

M. Zankoff has conferred with all the Envoys of the Powers here, except Sir William White, who will receive him later on. The Envoys have advised M. Zankoff to come to an agreement with the other parties in Bulgaria.

THE ABYSSINIAN ATTACK ON MASSOWAH.

SUAKIM, 25th January.

News has been received here that an attack had been made on Massowah by Abyssinians under Ras Aloula, in which the Italians lost five in killed and the Abyssinians two hundred.

ROME, 25th January.

Large reinforcements of Italian troops are under orders to proceed to Massowah; and two Italian corvettes also have been ordered there.

ROME, 26th January.

In the Chamber of Deputies to-day Count di Robilant, Minister for Foreign Affairs, announced that there was no need for anxiety concerning the Abyssinian attack on Massowah, as the Italian position at that place was very strong, and no danger to the troops who were holding out was apparent.

FRENCH EVACUATION OF TAMATAVE.

PARIS, 26th January.

Advices received from Madagascar state that

the French troops have evacuated Tamatave in conformity with the treaty of peace of 17th December, 1885, between France and Madagascar.

ANTICIPATING HISTORY.

LONDON, 26th January.

The *Times* states that Port Hamilton was evacuated by the British last Sunday.

[The *Times* is about a month in advance of the fact.—ED. *D.P.*]

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

MONDAY, 14th February.

OPIUM.

Quotations are:—

This year's New Malwa	$525	per picul, allce. of [5½ to 6½ catties.
Last year's New Malwa	$540	per picul, allce. of [5 to 6½ catties.
Old Malwa	$560	per picul, allce. of [7 catties.
Patna (New)	$560	per chest.
Benares (New)	$490	" "

EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	3/3¼ a3/3
Bank Bills, on demand	3/3¼
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	3/3½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	3/3¾
Credits, at 4 months' sight	3/3⅞
Documentary Bills, at 4 months' sight	3/4
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	4.14
Credits, at 4 months' sight	4.23
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	79½
Credits, 60 days' sight	81
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	219½
Bank, on demand	220¼
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	219½
Bank, on demand	220¼
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	71⅛
Private, 30 days' sight	72⅛

SHARES.

Quotations are:—

Hongkong and Shanghai Bank Shares—150 per cent. premium.

Union Insurance Society of Canton, Limited—$85 per share.

China Traders' Insurance Company's Shares—$62 per share, buyers.

North China Insurance—Tls. 285 per share.

Yangtsze Insurance Association—Tls. 114 per share.

Chinese Insurance Company, Limited—$180 per share.

On Tai Insurance Company, Limited—Tls. 148 per share.

Canton Insurance Office, Limited—$75 per share, ex div.

Hongkong Fire Insurance Company's Shares—$432½ per share, buyers.

China Fire Insurance Company's Shares—$89 per share.

Straits Marine Insurance Company, Limited—$30 nom.

Straits Fire Insurance Company, Limited—$20 nom.

Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company's Shares—120 per cent. prem.

Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Co.'s Shares—$80 per cent. prem., sellers.

Indo-China Steam Navigation Co.'s Shares—5 per cent. discount, sellers.

China and Manila Steamship Company, Limited—30 per cent. discount, nominal.

Douglas Steamship Company, Limited—$46 per share.

Hongkong Gas Company's Shares—$125 per share.

Hongkong Hotel Company's Shares—$190 per share.

China Sugar Refining Company, Limited—$133 per share.

Luzon Sugar Refining Company, Limited—$58 per share.

Hongkong Ice Company's Shares—$44½ per share.

Hongkong and China Bakery Company, Limited—$120 per share.

Perak Tin Mining and Smelting Company—$25 per share, buyers.

Punjom and Sunghie Dua Samantan Mining Company, Limited—$14 per share, buyers.

Perak Sugar Cultivation Company—Tls. 18 per share.

Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Company, Limited—$45 per share.

Hongkong and Macao Glass Manufacturing Co., Limited.—60 per cent. discount.

A. S. Watson & Co., Limited—32 per cent. premium.

Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Limited.—5 per cent. prem., buyers.

Singapore Insurance Company, Limited—$22 per share.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 A—2 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 B—6 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 C—8 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan, 1886 E—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Government 1885 Dollar Loan—3 per cent. premium.

HONGKONG TEMPERATURE.

(FROM MESSRS. FALCONER & CO.'S REGISTER.)

February 14th.

Barometer—9 A.M.	30.216
Barometer—1 P.M.	30.170
Barometer—4 P.M.	30.140
Thermometer—9 A.M.	61
Thermometer—1 P.M.	67
Thermometer—4 P.M.	68
Thermometer—9 A.M. (Wet bulb)	58
Thermometer—1 P.M. (Wet bulb)	62
Thermometer—4 P.M. (Wet bulb)	62
Thermometer—Maximum	68
Thermometer—Minimum (over night)	59

CHINA COAST METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER.

13th February, 1887, at 4 P.M.

STATION.	Barometer red. to sea level and 32° Fahr.	Temperature.	Humidity.	Wind. Direction.	Wind. Force.	Weather.	Rain last 24 hours.
Manila	29.94	86	75	ENE	2	c	—
Haiphong	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hongkong	30.09	59	78	E	3	b	—
Amoy	30.23	58	81	E	2	o	—
Foochow	30.19	67	78	NE	1	o	—
Shanghai	30.15	46	93	NNE	2	ep	—
Nagasaki	30.19	—	—	SW	1	—	—
Wladiwostock	29.69	23	—	—	0	b	—

14th February, 1887, at 10 A.M.

STATION.	Barometer red. to sea level and 32° Fahr.	Temperature.	Humidity.	Wind. Direction.	Wind. Force.	Weather.	Rain last 24 hours.
Manila	30.10	79	70	W	1	b	—
Haiphong	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hongkong	30.26	62	73	W	1	b	—
Amoy	30.26	57	87	NE	1	of	—
Foochow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Shanghai	30.37	43	53	NW	1	bf	—
Nagasaki	30.18	—	—	N	3	—	—
Wladiwostock	29.89	-11	55	—	0	b	—

The Barometer has risen and gradients for N.E. winds are steep. The temperature is moderate, the humidity rather high, and the weather fine.

W. DOBERCK.

Hongkong Observatory, 14th February, 1887.

METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER.

	Previous day, at 4 p.m.	On date at 10 a.m.	On date at 4 p.m.
Barometer	30.09	30.26	30.17
Temperature	59	62	70
Humidity	78	73	57
Direction of wind	E.	W.	N.N.W.
Force of wind	3	1	1
Weather	b.	b.	b.
Rain	—	—	—

1.—BAROMETER reduced to 32 degrees Fahrenheit and to the level of the sea in inches, tenths and hundredths.
2.—TEMPERATURE in the shade in degrees Fahrenheit.
3.—HUMIDITY in percentage of saturation, the humidity of air saturated with moisture being 100.
4.—DIRECTION OF THE WIND to two points.
5.—FORCE OF THE WIND according to Beaufort Scale.
6.—STATE OF THE WEATHER: B, blue sky; C, detached clouds; D, drizzling rain; F, fog; G, gloomy; H, hail; L, lightning; O, overcast; P, passing showers; Q, squally; R, rain; S, snow; T, thunder; V, visibility; W, dew (wet).
7.—RAIN in inches, tenths and hundredths.

W. DOBERCK.

Hongkong Observatory, 14th February, 1887.

NEWS FOR THE ENGLISH MAIL.

LATE TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, 5th February.

The Continental Bourses have become very much stronger. There is a much more hopeful feeling prevailing as to the maintenance of peace between France and Germany, and the report of the impending war loan is not confirmed.

LONDON, 7th February.

Mr. Parnell has moved an amendment to the Address in the House of Commons in which he denies that disorder exists where rents have been reduced, and asserts that the only remedy for the existing state of Ireland is to declare the independence of the country.

LONDON, 8th February.

In the attack on Massowah it is reported that the Italians lost 4 7 men in killed and wounded, amongst them being 82 officers killed and 23 wounded.

The Italian Ministry has resigned.

LONDON, 9th February.

The French Chambers have approved the vote of credit for military expenditure of francs 86,000,000.

The British Government has proposed the neutralization of Egypt.

Lord Dunraven, Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, has resigned.

Mr. Goschen has been elected for the District of St. George's, Hanover Square.

[This constituency was represented last by a Conservative, Lord Algernon Percy.—ED. *D.P.*]

LONDON, 10th February.

A number of Generals and several battalions of troops have been ordered to proceed immediately to France from Algeria.

A Havas telegram received at Saigon on the 3rd instant is as follows:—

The Berlin *Post* publishes very irritating articles against France. A great fall in the public funds has taken place on the Paris Bourse. The attitude of the French journals is calm.

CRICKET.

THE WORLD v. IRELAND.

This match was commenced on the Cricket Ground, Hongkong, on Friday afternoon, the 11th inst. The World team went first to the wicket, Graham and Sawyer being sent to face the bowling of E. J. Coxon and Dawson. It proved a bowlers' day, runs coming slowly and wickets falling rapidly. Barff made the most runs, but his score did not total a score; Baker with 16 and Bramwell with 14 came next. The last wicket fell for 97.

Nor did the boys from the Green Isle achieve much greater things when their turn came, G. S. Coxon being caught for 12 and Travers for 15, both by Robertson, while E. J. Coxon was run out for 4. At gunfire Ireland had lost three wickets for 33.

Prospects did not improve much for Ireland on Saturday morning, for soon after going to the wicket Scanlan was caught off one by Wilson, and a rot of the first order then set in, the tail scarcely adding a dozen to the score, which only totalled 49.

In their second innings the World succumbed rapidly to the destructive bowling of E. J. Coxon, Robertson and Wilson being the only ones who got into double figures, the former putting 26 and the latter 12 together. The total score only amounted to 74.

The Irish team, with heavy odds against them, made a better stand in their second innings, Travers compiling 18, and G. S. Coxon 11 before they were caught out. Scanlan appeared to be well set, and was making a promising score, when he was unfortunately run out after contributing a most useful 20. Colonel Ryan, who followed, added 7, and Hastings the same number of runs to the score, and the remaining wickets fell rapidly to the smart bowling of Wilson and Barff, the total reaching 83. The World therefore won by 39 runs.

Following is the full score:—

THE WORLD.

FIRST INNINGS.		SECOND INNINGS.	
M. D. Graham, b E. J. Coxon	7	not out	3
F. H. Sawyer, c Dawson, b E. J. Coxon	0	st. Coxon, b E. J. Coxon	9
H. Baker, c Scanlan, b Dawson	16	st. Coxon, b E. J. Coxon	5
A. A. Lloyd, c and b E. J. Coxon	0	b E. J. Coxon	3
F. H. O. Wilson, b E. J. Coxon	0	b Dawson	12
W. Bruce-Robertson, st. G. Coxon, b E. J. Coxon	9	c Travers, b Dawson	26
C. S. Barff, c Ryan, b E. J. Coxon	18	c and b Coxon	8
G. A. Bramwell, b E. J. Coxon	14	c Ryan, b E. J. Coxon	1
A. H. Jackson, b Dawson	7	absent	—
E. O. Smith, not out	11	b Dawson	2
T. S. Smith, b Dawson	5	st. Coxon, b E. J. Coxon	5
Extras	10		
	97		74

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

First Innings.

	Balls.	Runs.	Maidens.	Wickets.	Wides.
E. J. Coxon	110	45	4	7	1
Dawson	105	42	7	3	—

Second Innings.

	Balls.	Runs.	Maidens.	Wickets.	Wides.
E. J. Coxon	90	36	2	6	—
Dawson	85	38	2	3	—

IRELAND.

FIRST INNINGS.		SECOND INNINGS.	
G. S. Coxon, c Robertson, b Sercombe Smith	12	c Robertson, b Wilson	11
A. K. Travers, c Barff, b Wilson	15	c Robertson, b Barff	18
E. J. Coxon, run out	4	b Wilson	8
A. de C. Scanlan, c sub., b Wilson	4	run out	20
Colonel Ryan, R.A., b Barff	3	b Barff	7
J. Hastings, b Wilson	1	c and b Wilson	7
Dr. Martin, b Barff	1	b Wilson	2
W. H. F. Darby, b Barff	1	c Sawyer, b Barff	2
J. D. Saunders, c S. Smith, b Wilson	1	not out	1
H. Dawson, not out	2	c T. S. Smith, b Barff	0
R. C. Warren, R.N., c and b Wilson	0	c Barff, b Wilson	0
Extras	5	Extras	7
	49		83

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

First Innings.

	Balls.	Runs.	Maidens.	Wickets.	Wides.
Wilson	82	19	8	5	—
Barff	65	20	5	3	—
T. S. Smith	15	5	2	1	—

Second Innings.

	Balls.	Runs.	Maidens.	Wickets.	Wides.
Wilson	90	45	3	5	—
Barff	85	31	4	4	1

FIRE AT HONGKONG.

At about ten minutes past eight p.m. on Thursday, the 10th instant, a fire broke out at No. 3, Bonham Strand, opposite the Central Fire Brigade Station. The building is occupied by a Chinese shopkeeper who sells European lamps, &c. We have not heard the exact cause of the outbreak, but it originated in some way with a stock of kerosine oil, of which there were about fifteen tins on the premises. With material of this highly inflammable nature it will readily be understood that the flames spread all over the shop in a few seconds. The Station is only across the road, but by the time the bell there began to peal forth the alarm the whole house was in flames. A few seconds afterwards great volumes of flames were pouring upward, and the fire looked like spreading to large dimensions. The fire engines were very promptly at work, however, and having the advantage of being so close, the brigades were very quick in getting powerful streams of water upon the burning house. Fortunately also there were good thick partition walls between the burning building and the houses on each side, and there was very little wind to carry the flames along. The struggle between the two elements was a short one, and by nine o'clock it was pretty evident the firemen had got the upper hand, and all danger of the fire spreading was at an end. A quarter of an hour later there was but little fire remaining in the house, and this was soon drowned out. No. 3, Bonham Strand, was quite burnt out, though the walls remained standing, but the houses on either side were but little damaged by fire. At the back, houses are densely packed all the way to the Praya, and there was an excellent field for a big conflagration. The firemen were as successful at the back, as at the front, however, and none of these houses suffered, except by water. The house destroyed, or rather its site, has been the scene of a great many fires in recent years. The house was insured in the Scottish Imperial Insurance Office for $12,000.

STORMY EXPERIENCE OF THE STEAMER "GLENROY."

LOSS OF LIFE.

The Glen line steamer *Glenroy*, which arrived here from London on Saturday morning, the 12th February, has a sad tale to tell of a rough experience in the Bay of Biscay, the chief officer and two seamen having been washed overboard and lost. The report of Captain Webster, the master, is as follows:—

Left London on December 24th. Weather then very wet and cloudy, with wind from S.W. and blowing strong. At 4.30 p.m. anchored at the Nore. 11 p.m. same night, weather clear and wind N.W., got underweigh and proceeded on our voyage.

December 25th, 4.30 a.m., landed pilot at Dover. Weather fine and clear. During the afternoon the wind backed again to S.W. and began to blow.

Dec. 26th, 8 a.m., bar. 30in., ther. 57 deg., steering W.S.W.; weather thick and rainy with wind from S.W., blowing a fresh gale, with high S.W. sea. Surprised at such a high reading of the barometer during such weather, and kept watching it attentively. At 9 a.m. it had fallen one tenth, and continued falling at the rate of one tenth per hour. At noon, we were in a position by acc. of the 48deg. 58min. N. lat. and 5 deg. 11min. W. long.; barometer then 29in. 50. At 3 p.m., I had the lowest reading of the barometer 29.30in., that is, seven tenths of an inch lower than at 8 a.m. It may have been lower, but I did not see it, as I was not again in the chart room till 8 p.m., when it then registered 29.80in. At 3 p.m., the wind shifted with a terrific burst to N.N.W. and continued to blow with great violence. Thus we had the former high S.W. sea on our port bow, and the rising N.N.W. sea on our starboard beam, causing the ship to roll and labour heavily, and giving the sea a most ominous appearance. The engines were working dead slow, and the ship was brought to head W.N.W. having the sea on the starboard bow. In this position we did fairly well, but about 5.30 p.m. the wheel chains parted, and the ship fell off into the trough of the sea, which did considerable amount of damage. In trying to secure the rudder, which was swinging about with every sea, the first officer, and two of the men, unfortunately lost their lives. Nothing could be done for the unfortunate men, as the ship was labouring in such a manner, that no one could stand on deck or do anything to get a boat out, even if it could have lived in the sea at the time. In addition to this loss we had six men disabled, two very seriously. One was left in hospital at Port Said to have two fingers amputated from his left hand, and the other had a rib broken, and other internal injuries. On account of the darkness, it was next to impossible to get the chains connected, and the ship lay all night unmanageable. At daylight, the wind and sea had somewhat gone down, and we then managed to secure the rudder until the chains were connected. The after-steering gear was completely disabled by the rudder swinging about.

I may state that the three men were not all washed overboard at once. The Chief Officer was the first who was lost, and that was just after the chains parted. Then another man was missed but the third was not missed till morning, when the list was called over, to find out the names of the missing and disabled.

During the night, we lost a life boat, and had another damaged. Rails and stanchions on the starboard quarter were wrenched off the deck and carried away; the saloon skylight was started; engine room skylight damaged; wheel casing, and all connected completely swept away; ice box and meat safe carried away; after steering gear rendered useless, also considerable damage to fittings on the bridge; and cabin fittings, and a large quantity of stores damaged by salt water.

A HONGKONG TIME BARGAIN CASE AT SHANGHAI.

In the United States Consular Court at Shanghai, on the 3rd instant, before General Kennedy, Consul-General, sitting judicially, with Messrs. W. S. Wetmore and W. R. Eastlack as Assessors, a case was heard in which Messrs. J. A. Mosely and D. McCulloch were the plaintiffs and Mr. W. S. Emens, as Administrator of the estate of the late Mr. Samuel Robinson, defendant. The suit was to recover the sum of $3,050 the difference between the agreed price of a hundred and fifty shares in the Luzon Sugar Company and their market value when the plaintiffs took them over from Mr. Robinson on his being unable to take delivery.

The petition of the plaintiffs who are described as merchants' clerks in Hongkong, read by Mr. Wainewright, their solicitor, set forth that on or about the 21st of March, 1883, they, through Messrs. Chater and Vernon, of Hongkong, stock and share brokers, contracted with Mr. Samuel D. Robinson to sell to him fifty shares in the Luzon Sugar Refining Company, Limited, for the sum of $5,400, with delivery on the 31st July, and on or about 23rd April following a further hundred shares in the same company for the sum of $10,1-0, with delivery August 31st. But Mr. Robinson never completed any of the purchases, and in consequence of his inability to perform his part in the said contract the plaintiffs about the end of July, 1883, agreed to take back the shares, on the condition that he should pay them $3,050 the difference between the agreed price of the shares and their market value at the time of this arrangement. The arrangement was subsequently embodied in letters which passed between the plaintiff John Alex. Mosely and Mr. S. Robinson, but the amount has been never paid, and the plaintiffs therefore sought that the defendant as administrator of Mr. Robinson's estate might be ordered to pay the $3,050 together with interest at 8 per cent. since July, 1883.

The defendant's answer was in effect that there was not sufficient proof in writing of the purchase of the shares; that such claims were barred by the Statute of Frauds; that the action was not commenced till more than two years after the accrual of the claim, whereby such actions are barred by the Regulations for United States Consular Courts, and finally that another judgment having already been given against the estate, there would not be funds to meet the amount in the present case if judgment were given against him.

Mr. Wainewright said the first thing he would have to prove was that there was a sale of the shares to Mr. Robinson, that they had never been paid for, and that the claim that the debt should be paid out of his estate was a reasonable one. The sum claimed was the difference in the value of the shares upon the contract price and their value when they were taken over by the plaintiffs. He had to meet two pleas advanced by the defendant, the first of which was that he (Mr. Wainewright) was barred by the Statute of Frauds, and the other by Consular regulations. Mr. Wainewright then read the declarations of the plaintiffs and of their stock brokers deposing to the sale of the shares to Mr. Robinson, and said that the next evidence he would adduce was a copy of a letter written by Mr. Robinson in reply to the letter from Mr. Mosely dated 11th August, 1883, to Mr. Robinson, which said—

"Messrs. Chater & Vernon inform me that owing to heavy reverses in business you find yourself unable to take up the 150 Luzon shares purchased from me.

"I much regret your unfortunate position and have taken over these shares at $83, the market rate ruling on the 31st ult. The shares were sold to you 50 at 108 and 100 at 101, which leaves a loss to me of $3,050. I am assured by Messrs. Chater & Vernon that you are quite unable to liquidate this difference now and taking into consideration the losses you have lately incurred I intend leaving the matter open until you feel yourself in a position to pay me, and I hope you will send me instalments against the above as you are able to."

Mr. Emens, who defended the suit, read Mr. Robinson's reply to the advice and dated the 20th August as follows:—"I have received your kind favour of the 11th, and in answer to the same I would write that my prospects are so gloomy that I cannot hold out any hopes with regard to the future. If I should be so lucky as to have it in my power to do anything in the matter you can rely upon my doing my utmost."

Mr. Wainewright said these documents were the only evidence that he was in a position to adduce, but he submitted that they were sufficient for the purpose, and that they actually proved the statements in the petition so far as they were material; that the shares were sold on a certain day and at a certain price, and the court had also evidence that the contract had never been completed. It was shown in the declarations that the plaintiffs afterwards made an arrangement with Mr. Robinson by which he was to pay the $3,050 when he could. These letters, he (Mr. Wainewright) submitted, furnished sufficient evidence of the promise to pay although he did not undertake to pay at any particular time. But he did not repudiate the contract, and admitted the sum demanded was owed by him to the plaintiffs. If he had lived it was probable that they could not have sued him then upon the letter, but that was, however, a matter which he (Mr. Wainewright) need not now discuss, for when a man died his estate became charged with his debts, and the time had arrived when his executor was able to pay the money. If Mr. Robinson were alive and had this amount of property he would pay what he could; this was all his executor was now asked to do. They did not seek to obtain payment in full, but only wanted to have their claim placed upon the estate *pari passu*, and did not seek priority. It was plain that the time had arrived when they might expect fulfilment of the promise that Mr. Robinson would do his utmost, and that they should be placed *pro rata* upon the estate. With regard to one of the defences set up as to the Statute of Frauds, he thought that it must be to section 17 to which the defendant referred as there was no other section of the Statute upon which he could rely. He contended that the section could not be applied to the shares in a Company like the Luzon Sugar Refining Company. The words of the section were that after the 24th day of June, 1867, no contract for the sale of any goods, wares, or merchandise shall be allowed to be good except the buyer shall have received some of the goods, or given something in part payment thereof, or that some note or memorandum shall have been signed.

His Honour observed that American law somewhat differed from English on the point. Some of the States held that shares did not come under the Statute of Frauds, while others held that they did.

Mr. Wainewright said that the law of England was very well defined on the point, and he took it that the Court would not regard American law on that particular point, for it was really the law of Hongkong they had to consider. The question was whether a written contract was necessary. They were at a disadvantage as to the procedure in Hongkong, as there was only one lawyer in Shanghai, Mr. Drummond, who had practised in the Hongkong Court. When Hongkong was acquired it took over the law of England as it existed at the time, including the Statute of Frauds, and all the decisions which had taken place in England up to that time; the question was whether Hongkong had done anything since to alter the law. He could, if His Honour wished, bring the skilled witness referred to to show that Hongkong followed the British legislature. It often made an Ordinance for its own purpose, but it never made one which was in conflict with British law, and there was no Ordinance in Hongkong which destroyed in effect the Statute of Frauds. He had there the titles of all Ordinances, but he did not think it was necessary to go through them. He contended that Mr. Robinson's letter was really a written contract, for in it he admitted and satisfied the claim to Mr. Mosely and he quoted from Benjamin on the Sale of Personal Property to prove that the 17 sec. of the Statute of Frauds did not apply to shares, and also cited a number of cases in support of his contention, that of Humble and Mitchell (11 Ad. & E.) amongst others. He had not the broker's book to produce, but he had their sworn declaration proving that the contract was entered into and that they sold the shares to Mr. Robinson.

His Honour—You have not been able to find anything like the original contract, and you rely upon the letters from Mr. Mosely and Mr. Robinson?

Mr. Wainewright held that in the letter of the latter he really signed something which amounted to a contract; he admitted that it looked like a paradox to say that Mr. Robinson had become in a position to pay by dying, but it was true. In regard to the Statute of Limitation, the U. S. Consular Regulation fixing the time at two years after the cause of the action began was void because it was *ultra vires*. It was made by a minister with the consent of Congress; but he contended that a minister could only make regulations within the power conferred on him by Congress. All the minister could do was to define rules of practise; he could not make a new Statute of Limitation.

His Honour—The court sitting here is a subordinate court. The minister's is an appellate court. How far is it competent for a subordinate court to overrule the decision of its superior? (Laughter).

Mr. Wainewright said he would leave that to his Honour—I have my own opinion as a lawyer, but I would like the question taken up and decided.

Mr. Wainewright contended that his clients were not to be bound by the Consular Regulation because the time stipulated in the letter had not run out. Mr. Robinson now being dead did not require any more money, and his estate should therefore be applied to pay his creditors. His contract began to take effect the moment of his death. He pointed out the consideration of forbearance in the contract, which was recognized in Mr. Robinson's letter to Mr. Mosely, who forbore to exercise his strict legal rights when Mr. Robinson promised to pay when he could.

Mr. Emens said he was sorry that he was not empowered to employ counsel, but was obliged to defend the suit himself. The first question was as to the purchase of shares and it would seem that the same brokers Messrs. Chater and Vernon acted and were agents for both parties, the plaintiffs and Mr. Robinson. He asked that the contract be produced; else he did not think he would be obliged to pay the claim. He found in paragraph 31 of Story on Agency that the same broker acting for both parties was evidence of fraud, for a broker could not conscientiously do justice to both vendor and vendee. He could not see how if a man was not liable when he was alive, that he became liable after his death. Nor could he see how Messrs. Mosely and McCulloch exhibited forbearance, because they could not sue Mr. Robinson in Hongkong.

Mr. Wainewright—Oh yes, they could have sued him.

Mr. Emens replied that he could prove that they were debarred by 8 & 9 Vic. Cap. 119, and was proceeding to argue the point, when

Mr. Wainewright objected to its being raised then as it had not been raised in the defence.

The Court, however, gave the defendant leave to amend his defence by adding the following paragraph to his answer,

"That the plaintiffs ought not to recover the amount for which they sue, as in Hongkong where the alleged contract was made, transactions of this nature are made void by the Statute 8 and 9 Vict., Cb. 109 Sec. 18."

Mr. Emens quoted from Benjamin on Sales page 134 to show that there was no remedy at Hongkong on a contract as to time bargains or as to the difference in prices of shares at a contract time and future time.

His Honour asked did Mr. Emens say that the shares were not to have been delivered to Mr. Robinson.

Mr. Emens replied that the letter of August 11th showed that Mr. Mosely agreed to take the difference and "call it square," which he contended showed that the shares were not to be transferred. Messrs. Mosely and McCulloch knew that their petition would not be received in Hongkong, but would be kicked out of Court.

Mr. Wainewright—That is a new proceeding. I may inform you that British courts always hear petitions and don't kick them out.

Mr. Emens then quoted a number of authorities from Parson on Contracts to prove that shares were to be considered as merchandise and so within the Statute of Frauds. As to the change in the Statute of Limitation he thought that the court should be bound by the two years regulation if the minister who probably had very good reason on account of the migratory nature of the American people in Hongkong and Shanghai, for the alteration from six years. He urged the Court to consider that no date was named in Mr. Mosely's letter, and the price of the shares at the time of the alleged sale had to be proved. He argued that the whole transaction was a gambling one and therefore the suit upon it was barred by the Act of Parliament before quoted.

Mr. Wainewright, in the course of his reply, said that with regard to the statement that a broker could not act for the two parties in the sale and purchase of shares, it was directly contrary to the experience of every man who knew anything about business. It was perfectly legal for him to act for both. As to whether Mr. Robinson intended to take the shares or not, the Court could not go into the question as to how far he went into the business as a gambler or as an investor. It lay upon the defendant to show that it was not a *bona fide* claim. The claim was for the damage to the plaintiffs in the transaction, for the difference in the price of the shares at the contract time and their price in the open market. There was no evidence whatever to show that there was anything illegal or irregular in the transaction. It was a common practice for a man to say he would pay for shares at a certain date and then find that he was not able to take delivery. The observation of the defendant that the suit could not be brought in Hongkong, he was unable to prove in any way. 8 & 9 Victoria did not apply to Hongkong, and even assuming that they did, they would not apply to a case like the present. Mr. Wainewright quoted a number of cases mentioned in 74 Stutfield on the laws relating to Betting, Time Bargains, and Gaming, including that of Wells and Porter [3 M. and W. 722] Williams *v.* Toye [23 L.J. C.C. 860] Thacker *v.* Harvey [L.R. 4 Q. B. Div.]

His Honour said that he had still a lingering doubt about the contract implied in Mr. Robinson's letter, and as to whether the plaintiffs could have sued him upon so vague a promise as regarded time.

Mr. Wainewright—Fate has fixed it that they can now sue him.

His Honour—The question is whether the forbearance did not rescind the contract.

Mr. Wainewright urged that it did not. The contract was there in writing and the Statute of Limitation did not commence to run till the day arrived on which Mr. Robinson could pay, and that was not till after his death.

His Honour gave judgment on the 8th instant as follows:—

The petition in this cause alleges that on or about the 21st of March, 1883, the plaintiffs through Messieurs Chater and Vernon, of Victoria in the Colony of Hongkong, Stock and Share brokers, contracted with the said Samuel Dealy Robinson to sell to him for delivery on the 31st day of July, then next fifty shares in the Luzon Sugar Refining Company Limited at or for the price or sum of $5,400; and that on or about the 23rd day of April, 1883, the plaintiffs, through the said Messieurs Chater and Vernon, contracted with the said Robinson to sell to him for delivery on the 31st day of August then next a further one hundred shares in the said Company at or for the price or sum of $10,100. When the 31st of July came, Robinson did not comply with his contract for the fifty shares. Thereupon plaintiffs wrote to him as shown by letter of date August 11th, 1883, offering to take over the 150 shares (although the due date of the lot of one hundred had not matured) and claimed the sum of $3,050, alleging that sum to be the difference between the agreed price of the said shares on the 31st day of July, 1883. Robinson's reply to said letter, dated August 20th, 1883, was introduced by plaintiffs together with a declaration of Vernon the broker and a declaration made by the plaintiffs. No evidence was introduced by the defendant who, for lack of means of the estate to employ counsel, defended the case himself. He relied on three legal positions. 1st—That the contract was void under the Statute of Frauds. 2nd—That under the Statute of 8 and 9 Victoria, prohibiting wagers by way of stock transactions, it was an illegal contract, and plaintiffs should not recover. 3rd.—That the claim was barred by the Statute of Limitations. Hongkong being the place of contract and performance thereof, the contract under established rules of construction, is to be construed by the law there in force. Shares in joint stock companies do not by the law in force at Hongkong, a British colony, come within the Statute of Frauds. (Benjamin on Sales Sec. 111.) This defence is overruled. As to the contract being illegal under 8 and 9 Victoria, it depends upon how far such transaction (Stock Exchange) are in the nature of wagers. Was there anything in this transaction to show that it was not intended that the said shares should be bought and sold, but as a mere wager? The only evidence adduced is that of the Broker and Plaintiffs and there is nothing to show that there was not to be a delivery of the shares on the completion of Robinson's part of the contract. It was not a contract for *differences*, and hence not embraced under said Statute. (Thacker *vs.* Hardy 42 B. D. 685, and ex parte *Grant*. 13 Ch. Div. appear to be leading English cases on the construction of the Statute.) The second defence is also overruled. But when we come to the plea of the Statute of Limitations the case presents difficulties. The 83rd paragraph of our Regulations for Consular Courts in China is as follows:—"Civil actions based on written promise, contract or instrument must be commenced within six years after the cause of action accrues; others within two." What is this action based on? Is it on the parol contract made by the Brokers between plaintiffs and Robinson, or on the letter of plaintiff Mosely dated August 11th, 1883, and that of Robinson dated August 20th, 1883? It appears to the Court unquestionably on the former. The allegations of the petition show this. It is based on the amount claimed of defendant as damages, for Robinson's non-performance of contracts of 21st March, 1883, and 23rd April, 1883, and the letter of plaintiffs' is simply a proposal to leave the matter open and for Robinson to pay up by instalments as he became able. And as it takes two to make a contract, if it be held that this letter and Robinson's reply together form the contract, then Robinson's assent must be shown. It is not shown by his letter. On the contrary he says—"I cannot hold out any hopes with regard to the future." It is true he does add, "if I should be so lucky as to have it in my power to do anything in the matter, you can rely on my doing my utmost." If Robinson had assented to the instalment proposition, and fixed or intimated dates, when he would pay, the letters might be held as a contract. The learned counsel for the plaintiffs stated with the frankness which always characterises him, that during intestate's lifetime plaintiffs could not have sued him on his letter as a contract between them, but contended that now he being dead, plaintiffs have a right on the letters to come into Court and recover *pro rata* share among intestate's other creditors. If his letter did not afford ground to sue him on during his lifetime, the Court fails to perceive how his dying gives it any more validity. "An Administrator can only be held for the contracts of his intestate and not his proposals." (Ships *v.* Jones 20 Penn. State Reports 708.) Robinson proposed to pay if he got able but did not contract to do so. The Court is of opinion that the claim is based on a parol contract there being no writing or memorandum signed by Robinson at the date of making the contracts, nor any promise in writing to pay the amount claimed at any time and the right of action having accrued more than two years before suit was brought the plea is sustained. It was forcibly argued by the learned counsel for the plaintiffs that section 4086 of the Revised Statutes of the United States under which in conformity with section 4083 the Minister and Consuls placed in the Regulations for the Government of Consular Courts in China, paragraph 83, had no power to make a Statute of Limitations and in that a remedy was provided by the common law the exercise of such authority was *ultra vires*. Whether this be sound reasoning or otherwise, it does not become this Court to undertake to abrogate said regulation, but as a tribunal governed by these regulations for its guidance and direction, however, imperfect and faulty in some respects they may be, yet they have the force of law and on the principle as it were of *stare decisis* until the appellate Court—the Minister—and in some cases the U. S. District Court for the District of California pronounce any one of them illegal or unconstitutional, the Consul General and Consuls in China must be governed by them. They have the force of decisions and an inferior Court cannot overrule the decisions of a superior, or abrogate rules made for its government by its superior. The letter of Robinson would have the effect of preventing the bar of the Statute if it had been written just before the expiration of the two years from the accrual of the right of action, but it was written only twenty days after the right had accrued and hence could have no effect in deferring the bar. The intestate lived for three years after the accrual of the right of action and no proceedings were taken to enforce the debt, nor does there appear to have been anything more said on either side in regard to it, and while he might have been in honour, if not legally bound, after the expiration of the two years to have paid plaintiffs, if he was able, yet in that they permitted the matter to run along until the Statute had barred the claim, and then after the death of Robinson instituted this suit his Administrator was right in interposing the plea. As Judge Story has forcibly expressed it in the case of Bill *v.* Morrison, 1 Peters 351 (a leading case on the Statute of Limitations) "It is a wise and beneficial law not designed merely to raise a presumption of payment of a just debt from lapse of time, but to afford security against stale demands after the true state of transaction may have been forgotten or be incapable of explanation by reason of the death, or removal of witnesses." The judgment of the Court is that the complaint be dismissed with costs.

His Honour intimated that he would be willing to assist Mr. Wainewright in every way, if his clients wished to appeal to the U. S. Minister as to the Consular regulation affecting the Statute of Limitations.—*N. C. Daily News.*

HONGKONG.

The first annual meeting of the shareholders in the Punjom and Sunghie Dua Samantan Mining Company was held on the 8th inst., when the report and accounts were duly passed and the Chairman was able to give a good account of the prospects of the Company. On the afternoon of the 9th inst., the Auxiliary Flotilla was inspected by Admiral Hamilton. The British steamer *Bafila*, which had been thoroughly repaired by the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co. after getting ashore in the Hainan Straits, went for a very successful trial trip on the 10th inst. News was received here on the afternoon of the 10th of the stranding, on the 1st inst., on the bar at Tamsui, Formosa, of the American schooner *Wagrien*, which was conveying thither a cargo of telegraph poles from Foochow. The cargo was got to shore, and it is still hoped that the vessel may be floated. On the night of the 10th inst. a fire broke out in No. 3, Bonham Strand, and the house was entirely destroyed, but the exertions of the Fire Brigade saved the adjoining thickly packed and densely inhabited dwellings. The Legislative Council met on the 11th inst. Sir George Philippo presided in the absence through indisposition of the Acting Governor. The Hon. C. P. Chater asked if the Government would co-operate with the community in any movement to fitly celebrate the Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen. The President replied that the Government were so prepared, but they considered that the initiative would come better from the public, as appearing more spontaneous. The Bill to amend the Ordinance for the better protection of Chinese women and children was read a second time, and the Arms Bill was considered in Committee and passed. A Fancy Fair and Fête was held in the City Hall on the 11th and 12th inst. in aid of St. John's Cathedral Organ Fund, and was a remarkably gay and brilliant gathering. A cricket match, The World *v.* Ireland, was played on the 11th inst., and resulted in a victory for the former by 39 runs, the bowlers having it their own way all through, scores being small on both sides. The half-yearly report of the Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, and the yearly reports of the Hongkong and China Fire Insurance Companies have been issued.

The German gunboat *Nautilus*, Captain von Hoven, from Shanghai 8th inst., arrived here on the 12th idem.

Inspectors Thomson, Mackie, and Bremner, who have all completed fifteen years' service in the Police Force, will be sworn in for another term of five years, at the Magistracy on the 12th inst.

By latest advices to hand the China Navigation steamer *Hangchow*, which stranded on the Tsin-siu island on the 25th January last, was in the same position as last reported. She had not broken up, but no hope of saving her seems now to be entertained.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that His Excellency the Acting Governor has been pleased to appoint, provisionally, Mr. W. M. B. Arthur, Assistant Master of the Government Central School, to be First Clerk at the Magistracy, *vice* Mr. T. F. Grey, invalided.

The British double-screw gun-vessel *Midge* is now in course of being partly dismantled. We understand that she was under orders from the Admiralty to be placed in the fourth steam reserve line, but is now to be converted into a hospital ship for contagious diseases instead, in place of the *Opossum*.

The steamer *Tsinan* which arrived here on the 10th inst., from Glasgow, is another of the new vessels recently constructed for the China Navigation Company. She is much on the same lines as the *Taiyuan*, and is also intended for the Australian line. She is a fine steel screw steamer. A description of this vessel has already been published.

The British troopship *Himalaya*, which has been undergoing some small internal repairs and re-arrangement, proceeded to Port Hamilton yesterday, and will embark the Garrison and establishment there without delay and return to this port in time to take on board the relieved, invalided, and time-expired men and leave for home between the 1st and 3rd of March.

The 12-ton gun which fell into the water the other day whilst being lifted from a lighter on board the *Audacious* owing to the 7-in. hawser snapping under the weight, was successfully raised on the 10th inst. It was somewhat difficult at first to get at it as it penetrated a few feet of the bottom in its descent, but after shovelling the earth and mud which covered it the divers were able to pass the necessary rope under it, and the gun was then brought safely on board the *Audacious*.

It would hardly seem that the Chinese Customs Authorities contemplate any great reduction of smuggling taking place as the result of the working of the Additional Article to the Chefoo Convention and the reported arrangement with the Hongkong and Macao Governments, for they have just concluded a contract in this colony for six new cruisers. A number of firms sent in tenders for the work, that of Mr. Croker being the lowest, and the contract was accordingly given to him. The boats are to be about 100 feet long.

It may be remembered that the supposed assailant of the Rev. Mr. Ross-Lewin, who has convicted of using a revolver to prevent arrest, was also convicted of being concerned in an ear-ring snatching case outside the joss house near Whitfeild Station in conjunction with two others not in custody. A man named Chan Akai has now been arrested by the Police charged with being the principal in the latter affair, who actually stole the earrings and fired a revolver at a chair coolie who pursued him up the hill. He was before the Police Court on the 12th inst., and was remanded.

The musketry course for the Police Force has recently been concluded, and P.S. Angus Mann has made the best score, 206 out of a possible 300, a very creditable score considering the nature of the competition, and something like 50 more than entitles him to rank as a marksman. He is thus entitled to wear for a year the crossed guns and crown badge on his arm. In addition to that he is the winner of a very handsome cup, presented by Major Dempster, the Adjutant of the Police Force. P.C. Fowler led for the two first stages of the competition, and finished second with a total of 197 points.

On the 11th inst. Mr. T. F. Grey, First Clerk in the Magistracy, left here for England by the O. S. S. Co.'s steamer *Dardanus*. It is only about six months since Mr. Grey was appointed to the Magistracy Clerkship, having previously held the post of Inspector of Police, and during Mr. Horspool's absence that of Acting Chief Inspector. Mr. Grey has now been invalided home, and will probably retire on the pension to which he is entitled by some twenty years' service in the Police Force. A subscription was got up among some of his Chinese friends to make him a present in money, and a testimonial was presented to him before his departure.

The Auxiliary flotilla for the defence of the port, consisting of the steam-launches *Stanley*, *Hilda*, *Lily*, and *Daisy*, were inspected by Vice-Admiral Hamilton on Wednesday afternoon, the 9th inst. The flotilla, under the command of Captain Rumsey, left the wharf near the Harbour Office about 4 p.m. manned by the volunteer members of the corps, and forming single line proceeded to the man-of-war anchorage, where they were drawn up abreast of the flagship *Audacious*. The Admiral then went on board the *Stanley* and the little craft went through sundry evolutions. The Admiral expressed his satisfaction with the manner in which the work was done, and said he should be glad to lend any assistance required to the corps.

Among the passengers by the French mail steamer *Anadyr*, which left here on the 8th instant, was Capt. G. A. Porter, The Buffs, who has for more than a year acted as Aide-de-Camp to the Hon. W. H. Marsh, C.M.G. Captain Porter had previously served here with the 2nd Battalion of The Buffs, and came out to Singapore, when promoted, to join the 1st Battalion. On Mr. Marsh assuming the administration Captain Porter accepted the post he has just vacated and during his residence at Government House he has made himself very popular by the courtesy, consideration, and good temper he has invariably displayed. He goes to Singapore to join his regiment before their departure for India.

On the 8th instant the members of the Indian Contingent of the Police Force were paraded in the compound of the Central Police Station to witness the presentation of a Bellilios Medal and the sum of $25 to ex-constable 595, Sunt Ram, who had received his discharge on the 1st inst. owing to the revolver wound he received not long ago when arresting a Chinese named Chun Akum. On that occasion Sunt Ram displayed great pluck, sticking manfully to his prisoner, and taking him to the station after he was wounded. The presentation was made by Captain Superintendent Deane, who expressed the hope that he would recover from his wound and live long to value the medal.

The German barque *Anton Gunther*, Steinbrugge, master, which left Sandakan with a cargo of timber for this port on the 23rd October last, arrived here on the 11th instant. It will be remembered that this vessel experienced such heavy weather between the 30th November and 8th December when she was about 150 miles from Lema Island that she sprang a leak and was compelled to shape a course to Manila, and when she arrived within 20 miles of Cape Bolinao, owing to a strong gale, she had to beat for Tourane, where she lay for a long time in order to effect what repairs were possible, there being no means of effecting thorough repairs at Tourane, and to wait until the monsoon moderated to enable her to proceed to this port. She arrived here safely on Friday evening and will probably have to go into dock.

CHINA.

FOOCHOW.

In view of the new arrangement which came into force on the 1st instant, with regard to the collection of the Lekin duties, (says the Foochow *Echo*) a general truce was proclaimed during the week and a host of smugglers, some of whom had been lying in durance vile almost from time immemorial, was at last set at liberty.

The Foochow *Echo* says:—Quite a gloom was cast upon the natives on Thursday afternoon, the 3rd inst., when it became known that a Chinese Bank—the Tung Hing—had burst up, being unable to meet an acceptance for $500. The news spread with the rapidity of a powder train to the furthest extremity of the city, and shortly afterwards a legion of creditors moved their steps towards the Bank, and who, terribly put out at the idea of losing, in some cases, their all, proceeded to give vent to their chagrin in terms more practical than lawful. Neither expostulation nor entreaty was of any avail, and the crowd of desperadoes seemed to be bent on putting Lynch law in force. It is needless to say that they were completely masters of the situation, and only retired from the scene of their exploits after having ransacked and destroyed everything that they could possibly lay their hands on.

SHANGHAI.

The Mercantile Marine Officers' Association gave a very successful ball at the Temperance Hall, Shanghai, on the 1st February.

General Jones, the new U.S. Consul at Chinkiang and formerly Consul at Nagasaki, arrived at Shanghai on the 7th instant *en route* to take up his appointment.

The *Haeshin*, having had her shaft repaired and her hull generally overhauled, was to leave Shanghai for Foochow on the 6th instant. The *Fuyew* was then to be laid up.

The *Daily News* learns that the Customs officials at Shanghai state that it is not their present intention, or that of the Chinese authorities, to interfere with the existing usages and regulations of the foreign Settlements in regard to their dealing with opium under Clause 7 of the recent notification on *Lekin*.

The shareholders in the Chinese Sabah Land Farming Company held a meeting at Shanghai on the 3rd instant. The *Mercury* hears that, as the quality of the tobacco grown by the Company has proved on the market to be first rate and equal to that of Sumatra, there is a good probability of renewed planting operations on the Company's Estate.

The Shanghai Tug-Boat Association have commenced operations on the wreck of the *Wan Nien Ching*, and, so far, says the *N. C. Daily News* of the 4th instant, have recovered over $6,000, about one-sixth of the treasure. The operations are performed by simply fishing it up, the weather being too rough to allow of divers going down. A subsequent issue of the same paper says the *Rocket* had returned with another $1,000.

The *Shanghai Mercury* has the following:—"The German Syndicate has made a loan, it is said, of Tls. 1,000,000 to the Chinese at five and a half per cent. per annum. If they have, the Chinese are more to be congratulated than the lenders. It seems to matter very little whether the advance has been made in silver or in sterling, as under present circumstances, so far as the Chinese are concerned, at such a rate they may well exclaim, 'Heads I win, tails you lose.' The information, of course, needs confirmation, but as it comes from London it has doubtless had its origin in serious negotiations. If the whole Tls. 35,000,000, with which the German Syndicate was said to be backed, are lent on the same terms the Chinese Government will be happy indeed."

The Rev. W. Muirhead, as representing the local branch of the Evangelical Alliance, has written to the Shanghai Municipal Council drawing attention to the injury done to morals by the brothels, gambling houses, opium dens, and other places that abound in Foochow-road and the neighbourhood. The Council decided to reply that it was not within its province to interfere. The *N. C. Daily News*, commenting on the matter, says:—"Years ago we repudiated with indignation being characterised as a 'sink of iniquity'; but there is no doubt that as regards a great part of the Chinese portion of this settlement, the opprobrium conveyed in the term is thoroughly deserved. For its size there is no city in the Empire of China so crowded with brothels, opium dens, gambling-houses, and similar haunts as this is, and it is this profusion of facilities for vice that makes Shanghai so much sought after by the gilded youth of China."

KIUKIANG.

The Supreme Court was embodied at Chinkiang on the 2nd instant, Mr. G. Jamieson, Assistant Judge, being on the bench, to try the suit of R. G. White *v.* T. W. Duff for libel. Mr. H. S. Wilkinson appeared for the plaintiff, and in his opening speech stated that the plaintiff would forego all claim for damages and costs, if the defendant would apologise and would undertake on his honour not to repeat the libels which he was charged with uttering. As the defendant refused this offer, the case was heard out, and resulted in the defendant's being condemned to pay to the plaintiff $500 damages and $500 costs; the Judge stating that the defendant's refusal to make an apology had necessarily influenced him in fixing the amount of the award.—*Daily News.*

HANKOW.

The Chinese at Hankow, the *Daily News* says, predict heavy floods on the Yangtsze this summer, owing to the immense quantity of snow which has fallen this winter.

Remarkably cold weather was still being experienced on the Yangtsze at the date of our last advices from Shanghai. The *Kiangfoo* arrived there on the 6th instant, says the *Daily News*, with her paddle boxes coated inside with ice to the thickness of a foot in some places. The ice at Hankow on the 2nd was four inches thick and the snow eighteen inches deep on the Race Course. Another steamer bound up to Hankow passed an overturned junk with two men on it frozen to death. So heavy has been the fall of snow at Hankow and Kiukiang that the roofs of several houses at the former port, and one at the latter, gave way under the great accumulation of snow on them. Sportsmen give lamentable accounts of the condition of the shooting. The birds are being rapidly starved to death, and the prospects for next season are as bad as they can be. Two full-grown pheasants were shot which were nothing but bones and feathers, the two together only weighing a couple of pounds.

TIENTSIN.

The birthday of His Excellency the Viceroy of Chihli fell on the 5th day of the first moon, that is, 29th January, and the *Chinese Times* says that Lady Li had given orders for theatrical entertainments at the yamen to celebrate the occasion. The Viceroy completes his 66th year.

The following enigmatical paragraph appears in a letter from the Tientsin correspondent of the *Mercury*:—"The proposition in regard to the Hongkong Opium Syndicate has been shelved by the Tsung-li Yamên; so also is Sir Robert Hart's office as Hoppo of Canton." What is the Hongkong Opium Syndicate, and what also is Sir Robert Hart's office as Hoppo of Canton? The same writer hears that—"Mr. John Pender, M.P., was congratulated by wire, on having secured the contract for constructing a railroad, but this 'bird is still in the bush.'" The correspondent seems to have a faculty for hearing things, but he certainly has no faculty for explaining what he hears.

PEKING.

The closing examination of the Tung Wen Kwan in the scientific department took place last week, says the *Chinese Times* of the 22nd January. It lasted three days and was attended by all the ministers of the Tsung-li Yamen. The aged Grand Secretary, Yen Ching-ming, was present one of the days. The Marquis Tsêng gave the closest attention to the proceedings from beginning to end. The number of students examined was one hundred and ten, and the best of them will obtain official promotion. Thus the utility and the proper standing of the College for Western Learning are gradually receiving due recognition, and though we are a long way from the realization of Prince Kung's ideal, the day will certainly come when proficiency in science will take its place beside classical erudition as a passport to official employment, and even to honorary degrees.

The Peking correspondent of the *N. C. Daily News* says there has been published there a large work in six volumes, on Anatomy, by Dr. Dudgeon, printed in large beautiful type at the College Press. There are two volumes of illustrations, amounting to over six hundred plates embracing all parts of the human body. The plates have been cut on blocks by native artists. The issue of this work at the Capital, and the presentation of copies to all the Ministers of the Tsung-li Yamen and other high officials, must revolutionise their ideas of the nature and location of the various organs of the body. The work has been in preparation for many years. It is a complete treatise, and is as a matter of course before its time. It is hoped that the rising youth who wish to study for the medical profession will find it invaluable. The

companion work on Physiology with an equal number of illustrations is we hear almost ready for the Press, and will prove more acceptable to the non-professional class as giving them an insight into the functions of the different organs. The work on anatomy has a beautiful title page written by His Excellency Tung, formerly a Minister of the Yamên, and well-known for his beautiful caligraphy and poetical and other works. There are prefaces from the highest officials in the Empire, who have been at one time or another patients of the Doctor. The author's preface is a strong plea for dissection and the establishment of medical schools on Western models. The first volume includes, besides the prefaces and indices, a translation of the History of Anatomy from the Encyclopædia Britannica. This chapter should prove interesting, as showing the gradual rise of the science in the West, and the contributions of the various European countries at different times to its development. "Know thyself" is both a Chinese and a Greek proverb. The Chinese will now have no excuse for ignorance of the human body, and the application of the proverb in a sense different from that dreamt of by Confucius.

The 7th instant, the 15th day of the first moon in the Chinese year, was, says the *Daily News*, marked by very important functions in the Imperial Palace at Peking. The appearance on crimson paper of the *Hupao* and *Shenpao*, must have been a puzzle to the majority of Europeans who saw them; but the better informed were thereby reminded of the fact that the day was the one chosen as auspicious for the formal assumption of some of the affairs of his vast empire which were hitherto in the hands of the Empress Mother by the youthful Emperor Kwang Hsü. His Majesty on the 21st December last went through the preliminary ceremonies in the long series of Imperial rites which attend the taking over of the reins of Government, namely, the worshipping at the Altar of Heaven, the consultation of the registers at the *Tai ho-tien* and the fasting in the Palace of Fasting, and the *Peking Gazette* announces that His Majesty would perform the Spring Sacrifices at the Imperial Ancestral Temple, and himself offer the customary prayers for a good harvest, which ceremonies take place on the 31st of January and the 5th of February. Although the vast majority of the Chinese at Shanghai, as is usual upon such occasions, appeared to know very little about the important functions in progress at the Capital of the Empire, there was a ceremony in the City Temple—which represents the Imperial Palace—the Chehsien, the Taotai, and other mandarins doing reverence to the Emperor's tablet. The bells of the French churches and of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart were also rung, and special services, in which large numbers of Chinese took part, were held in honour of the occasion. There was only a very meagre display of bunting on board the Chinese men-of-war in the harbour. The Empress Mother has hitherto held the reins of government on behalf of the Emperor, who, on the 7th instant, took her place on the Throne, and will it is believed in future affix the Royal Signature to the documents of State himself. The Young Emperor, who is now in his sixteenth year, was chosen, it will be recollected, by the two Empresses who were regents during the minority of the last Emperor, Tung Chi, who died at the age of nineteen on January 12th, 1875. His name was originally Tsai-Tien, but according to ancient custom termed *Kwoh Hsu* this was changed to his present title, signifying "Continuation of Glory," when he, an infant of three years, was chosen to succeed his cousin as ruler of the destinies of the millions who make up this vast Empire.

KOREA.

The Korean steamer *Teh Yueng*, formerly *Otori Maru*, has, it is feared, been lost. She was on a voyage from Chemulpo to Mokpho, and nothing had been heard of her for thirty days.

Mr. Parker, the popular Consul at Chemulpo, left for Shanghai on the 20th January, says the Seoul correspondent of the *Rising Sun*, having been recalled. His place has been filled by Mr. Thomas Waters, well known in China. Mr. Parker leaves many friends in Korea, and the British Government have but few Consuls in this part of the world who are so highly thought of as he.

Many of the Europeans in Seoul, says the correspondent of the *Rising Sun*, are using Korean anthracite coal, which can be procured very cheaply and is said to be fully equal to the best Australian coal. There are large beds of this mineral in the province of Phying Yang-do, and in the near future it is probable that the Government will open these mines, which will no doubt prove a good source of revenue to the country.

A correspondent of the *Rising Sun*, writing from Seoul on the 21st January, says that Russia and China have negotiated a treaty in which each country guarantees not to appropriate any Korean territory, but it remains to be seen how long it will suit the purpose of either country to respect the treaty. In the meantime, however, the fact of the treaty being made has produced a greater feeling of security among the Koreans than has existed for a long time.

JAPAN.

NAGASAKI.

The Nagasaki *Express* of the 9th inst. says:—H. M.'s gunboat *Firebrand* proceeded to Port Hamilton shortly before noon on Monday last, with the British barque *Dorothy* in tow, that vessel having been chartered to bring away the Government huts and timber, which have been purchased by Mr. Tah Lee, a Chinese subject, for the paltry sum of $250! The bargain includes the free towage of the *Dorothy* and every assistance and facility for taking down and shipping the material. The huts and timber in question cost the British Government, some two years ago, about $20,000.

The Nagasaki *Rising Sun* says:—Probably one of the most wonderful engine performances on record has just been completed at the Takashima Colliery, where one of the ventilating engines was stopped on the 24th ult. for repairs. This engine, when it was stopped, had been running for two years, four months, and twenty days, without a single moment's stoppage, and at a speed varying from 60 to 75 revolutions per minute, according to the quantity of fire-damp giving off in the mine! As a sample of what can be done with excellent material, good workmanship, and careful attendance, this performance deserves to be recorded. To enable our unprofessional readers to form some idea as to what work this engine has got through, in her long uninterrupted run, it is enough to say that the piston has travelled 50,000 miles, going backwards and forwards in the steam cylinder; the periphery of the exhausting fan has travelled 1,100,000 miles; the quantity of air that the machine has exhausted from the mine amounts to 81,432,000,000 cubic feet,—a quantity more easily written than comprehended.

COCHIN-CHINA.

SAIGON.

Amongst the passengers who left Saigon on the 29th January by the *Saghalien*, says the *Saigonnais*, was M. Paul Beer, who was sent out on a special mission by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Minister of Commerce. Having travelled through Siam, Cambodia, and Cochin-China, M. Paul Beer is now returning to France, taking with him samples and information of every description useful to French trade. He intends to give a series of lectures in the large manufacturing towns, and will afterwards return to Cochin-China.

TONQUIN.

M. Bihourd, the new Resident-General of Tonquin, arrived at Halong Bay on the 28th January by the *Primauguet* from Hongkong. He proceeded at once by the *Henri Rivière* to Haiphong. After a short stay there, during which he held a reception, he left the same evening for Hanoi, where he arrived the following afternoon, when he was received with the usual honours. In replying to an address by the Chamber of Commerce he said he had not come to talk, but to act, and before stating his programme and pronouncing on the questions to be dealt with he must have time to study them.

☞ *For other mail news see Supplement.*

"JAPAN GAZETTE,"
YOKOHAMA.

HAVING been appointed AGENT in HONGKONG and SOUTH CHINA for the *Japan Gazette*, "Japan Gazette Summary," and "Hong List," Orders for Subscriptions and Advertisements will be received at this Office.
Hongkong Daily Press Office,
Hongkong, 23rd May 1877.

INTIMATIONS.

ESCHOLA PORTUGUEZA.

JOAO MARIA PASSOS se resolve a proseguir a carreira de PROFESSOR, sem intenção de interrompel-a; e determina-se a abrir n'esta Colonia uma ESCHOLA DE GRAMMATICA PORTUGUEZA, que será denominada AULA DE GRAMMATICA PORTUGUEZA, para os MENINOS que queiram cursal-a.

Não obstante ser ella especialmente destinada para o estudo de PORTUGUEZ, se ensinarão tambem ELEMENTOS DE GRAMMATICAS INGLEZA E FRANCEZA aos Meninos que quizerem aprendel-os.

Promptifica-se ao mesmo tempo o ANNUNCIANTE a ensinar ás MENINAS, SENHORAS E CAVALHEIROS, que desejem lições em suas proprias casas.

Leccionará egualmente aos jovens Discipulos em suas casas, até que estiver prompto um local conveniente para a Eschola.

Pede respeitosamente ás Senhoras e Cavalheiros, a quem aprazа utilisar-se do seu prestimo, o obsequio de lhe dirigirem os seus communicados ao cuidado do Revmo. Sr. Pe. R. PERRONI, da Missão Italiana.

Será aceita qualquer mensalidade razoavel.
Hongkong, 1o. de Fevereiro de 1887. [274

J. MARINBURK & Co.
Marine House, Queen's Road, Hongkong.

MANUFACTURERS OF FIRST CLASS FURNITURE AND UPHOLSTERY,

Every description in Foreign & latest Designs.

ARTISTIC DRAPERIES AND LAMBREKINS.

DRAWING ROOM, LIBRARY AND DINING ROOM SUITES.

COMPLETE BEDROOM SUITES with Elegant Designs of DRESSING CASES.

BEDDING AND BEDSTEADS.

A Large Variety of latest Style of TAPESTRIES, VELVETS, SILK FURNITURE, PLUSHES in all Colours, Plain and Embossed.

FRINGES, TASSELS, CORDS by the Yard.

GILT MOULDINGS, PICTURE FRAMES, and CORNICES; also made with Silk Plushes.

The UPHOLSTERING is entirely done by MR. MARINBURK.

STEAMERS REFITTED WITH FIRST CLASS UPHOLSTERY WORK.
Hongkong, 7th September, 1886. [39

CUTLER, PALMER & Co.
ESTABLISHED IN 1815,
OF LONDON, BORDEAUX, CALCUTTA, BOMBAY, MADRAS, LAHORE, KURRACHEE, &c.
Are represented in China by
Messrs. JARDINE, MATHESON & Co. ....*
" SIEMSSEN & Co. ....*
" LANE, CRAWFORD & Co. & by ....*
" H. E. REYNELL & Co. in Japan............*

Subjoined are some of the items consigned by these well-known Shippers

SPIRITS.

COGNAC—The popular "4 Star" quality and best.
COGNAC—The well-known "2 Star" quality.
WHISKY SCOTCH, in Heart Shaped bottles, a speciality.
WHISKY SCOTCH, in Ordinary bottles.
The "Glenlivet" Whisky in round bottles.
The "Square bottle" Whisky of Napier Johnstone's.
The Celebrated "CARLTON"—11 *years old*.
WHISKY IRISH, the best selected, *very fine*.

N.B.—All the above Spirits are of excellent quality, and are recommended

WINES.

For Invalids use, PORT & SHERRY.—Very Superior and reliable. AMOROSO, MANZANILLA, & PALE DRY SHERRY, distinguished by Blue, Black, and White Seals. Charming Wines. *Suit all tastes.*

CLARET, viz., Mouton, Larose, St. Estephe, Medoc in Quarts & Pints. Need no recommendation.

For Prices apply to either of the above Firms marked *. [329

FONG, PHOTOGRAPHER
Has just added to his COLLECTION of VIEWS some NEW SCENES and Photos. of NATIVE TYPES, copies of which are obtainable in his Studio or at Messrs. KELLY & WALSH's.

IVORY MINIATURES of Superior Quality and of Excellent and High Finish. PERMANENT ENLARGEMENTS of PHOTOS. and VIEWS and reproductions of the same on Paper, Canvas, or Opal.

INSTANTANEOUS VIEWS, GROUPS and PORTRAITS are taken in any state of the weather, and all Permanent Processes, are executed on Moderate Terms.

STUDIO—ICE HOUSE LANE. [62

GRIFFITH'S
PHOTOGRAPHIC VIEWS,
of Hongkong, and Ports,
Are the Newest and Best published, have the greatest degree of permanency and are moderate in price.

SPECIAL EXCELLENCE
in IVORY MINIATURES, Enlargements and reproductions.

STUDIO, 1, DUDDELL STREET. [1649

MAIL TABLES. MAIL TABLES.
1887 1887 1887

MAIL TABLES.

NOW READY.
MAIL TABLES
FOR
1887.

Showing Dates of DEPARTURE of the ENGLISH and FRENCH MAILS from HONGKONG, of their anticipated ARRIVALS in LONDON, and the Dates of RETURN DESPATCHES; and containing also a similar Table regarding
PARCEL POST
and
AN ALMANAC FOR 1887.

On Paper 10 Cents each, or One Dollar per Dozen. On Cardboard 20 Cents each
Also
ANGLO-CHINESE CALENDAR.
On Cardboard 10 Cents.
"Daily Press" Office,
Hongkong, 11th January, 1887.

NOTICE.

HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK COMPANY, LIMITED.

SHIPMASTERS AND ENGINEERS are respectfully informed that, if upon their arrival in this Harbour, none of the Company's Foremen should be at hand, orders for repairs if sent to the HEAD OFFICE, No. 14, Praya Central, will receive prompt attention.

In the event of complaints being found necessary, communication with the Undersigned is requested, when immediate steps will be taken to rectify the cause of dissatisfaction.

D. GILLIES,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 26th August, 1885. [35

IF you want JAPANESE GOODS at Reasonable Prices
Go to CASSUMBHOY'S STORE,
BEACONSFIELD ARCADE,
A Large Assortment of New Satsuma and other Ware, Bronzes, Tea Services, Screens, &c.
New and Second-hand FURNITURE at Lowest Prices. [23

利 全

CHUN LEE,
DRAPERS, HOSIERS,
HABERDASHERS,
MILLINERS, TAILORS AND DRESSMAKERS.
No. 3, LYNDHURST TERRACE. [38

TONG TSUN,
72, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL,
TAILOR AND GENERAL DRAPER,
has just received a Fresh shipment of WINTER Goods including
CHRISTY'S HATS,
NAP AND PILOT CLOTH,
&c., &c., &c. [2275

PORTLAND CEMENT.
J. B. WHITE & BROS.
SOLE AGENTS FOR CHINA,
HOLLIDAY WISE & Co.
Hongkong, 11th April, 1883. [2342

INSURANCES.

NOTICE.

QUEEN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

The Undersigned, Agents for the above Company, are prepared to ACCEPT RISKS on FIRST-CLASS GODOWNS at ½ per Cent. Nett premium per Annum.

NORTON & Co., Agents.
Hongkong, 20th May, 1881. [60

AMICABLE INSURANCE OFFICE, LIMITED.
(OF CALCUTTA).

THE Undersigned are prepared to GRANT POLICIES on MARINE RISKS at Current Rates.

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, 27th September, 1886. [17

THE LONDON ASSURANCE

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER OF HIS MAJESTY KING GEORGE THE FIRST.
A.D. 1720.

THE Undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above Corporation, are prepared to grant Insurances as follows:—

MARINE DEPARTMENT.
Policies at current rates, payable either here, in London, or at the principal Ports of India, China, and Australia.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.
Policies issued for long or short periods at current rates.

LIFE DEPARTMENT.
Policies issued for sums not exceeding £5,000, at reduced rates.

HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co.
Hongkong, 26th July, 1872. [13

PHŒNIX FIRE OFFICE

The Undersigned are now prepared to GRANT POLICIES of INSURANCE against FIRE at the following Rates:—

On First-class European Tenements ....at ⅛ °/ₒ Net per Annum.
On First-class Godowns, & Merchandise stored therein ....at ½ °/ₒ Net per Annum.
On Coals ....at 1 °/ₒ Net per Annum.
On Petroleum in licensed Godowns ....at 1½ °/ₒ Net per Annum.
On First-class Chinese Tenements ....at 2 °/ₒ Net per Annum.
On Second-Class Chinese Tenements ....at 2½ °/ₒ Net per Annum.

DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.,
Agents for Phœnix Fire Office.
Hongkong, 5th August, 1881. [15

GENERAL LIFE AND FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

THE Undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above Company, are prepared to GRANT POLICIES against FIRE AND LIFE at Current Rates.

PUSTAU & Co.
Hongkong, 1st April, 1885. [697

THE LATEST ADVANCE IN LIFE INSURANCE.

THE NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY'S
5 YEAR DIVIDEND POLICY

THIS Policy secures to the insured the option of terminating his Insurance at the end of any 5 Year period, and receiving for his Policy a cash surrender value together with his share of accumulated surplus apportioned as a dividend. If death occur, the full amount of the Policy will be paid *immediately on proof of death, together with a Mortuary Dividend of 50 per Cent. of all premiums received during the 5 Year period in which death may happen.*

Prospectus and full particulars may be had on application to

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,
Acting Agents.
Hongkong, 13th January, 1887. [61

THE PACIFIC MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN FRANCISCO.

THE Undersigned having been appointed AGENT for the above named Company is prepared to grant POLICIES on European and Chinese Lives at current rates.

FRD. NAUDIN.
Hongkong, 1st February, 1887. [264

THE MAN ON INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

HEAD OFFICE—HONGKONG.

CAPITAL (SUBSCRIBED), $1,000,000.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.
KUM SIN SANG, Esq.
BAN HUP, Esq. | YOW CHONG PENG, Esq.
CHAN LI CHOY Esq. | Q. HOI CHUNE, Esq.

The Company GRANTS POLICIES on MARINE RISKS to all parts of the World, payable at any of its Agencies.

Contributory Dividends are payable to all Contributors of Business, whether they are Shareholders or not.

WOO LIN YUEN,
Secretary.
HEAD OFFICE,
No. 2, Queen's Road West,
Hongkong, 14th March, 1881. [1781

NOTICE.

THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

Is prepared to ACCEPT FIRST-CLASS RISKS at ½ °/ₒ nett per Annum, and other INSURANCES at Current Rates.

AGENCIES at all the Treaty Ports of China and Japan, and at Singapore, Saigon, Penang, and the Philippines.

JAS. B. COUGHTRIE,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 27th March, 1882. [744

NORTH GERMAN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY AT HAMBURG.

THE Undersigned, AGENTS for the above Company, are prepared to GRANT INSURANCES to the extent of $65,000, on first-class risks at current rates.

MELCHERS & Co.
Hongkong, 27th March, 1876. [12

TRANSATLANTIC FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HAMBURG.

The Undersigned, having been appointed Agents for the above Company, are prepared to ACCEPT RISKS against FIRE at Current Rates.

SIEMSSEN & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, 16th November, 1872. [14

NORTH BRITISH AND MERCANTILE INSURANCE COMPANY.

THE Undersigned, Agents of the above Company, are authorized to INSURE against FIRE at Current Rates.

GILMAN & Co.
Hongkong, 1st January, 1882. [16

CALEDONIAN FIRE AND LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

ESTABLISHED 1805.

THE Undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above Company are prepared to issue Policies of Insurance against Fire on the usual terms.

ARNHOLD, KARBERG & Co.
Hongkong, January, 1882. [997

FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, OF 1877, IN HAMBURG.

THE Undersigned, Agents of the above Company, are Prepared to ACCEPT RISKS at Current Rates.

PUSTAU & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, 18th January, 1884. [177

MANNHEIM REINSURANCE COMPANY.

THE Undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above Company are prepared to GRANT POLICIES on MARINE RISKS at Current Rates.

PUSTAU & Co.
Hongkong, 1st January, 1887. [277

THE Undersigned have been appointed Sole Agents for the Sale of their Goods in Hongkong and China by Messrs. J. & R. TENNENT, Glasgow, and Messrs. DAVID CORSAR & SONS, Arbroath.

ARNHOLD, KARBERG & Co.
Hongkong, January, 1867. [S7

TO LET.

MOUNT KELLETT.

TO LET—FURNISHED.

THE FIVE ROOMED HOUSE "BANGOUR"—Tennis Court attached.
For Particulars, apply to
MESSRS. BIRD & PALMER,
Architects.
Hongkong, 26th January, 1887. [217

TO BE LET.

DETATCHED HOUSE, Bonham Road, 5 Rooms.
GODOWNS, Praya East.
Apply to
LINSTEAD & DAVIS.
Hongkong, 9th December, 1886. [54

TO LET.

ROOMS in CLUB CHAMBERS.
Apply to
DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.
Hongkong, 1st February, 1882 [43

TO LET.
With Immediate Occupation.

THE COMMODIOUS PREMISES known as the P. & O. OLD OFFICES lately in the occupation of the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

For Further Particulars, apply to the Undersigned.

E. L. WOODIN,
Acting Superintendent.
Hongkong, 23rd November, 1886. [14

TO LET.

ROOMS IN "COLLEGE CHAMBERS."
No. 16, HOLLYWOOD ROAD.
Apply to
DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co.
Hongkong, 30th July, 1886. [42

TO LET.

THE GROUND FLOOR of No. 2, BLUE BUILDINGS containing FIVE ROOMS and TWO TREASURE ROOMS suitable for Offices.
Apply to
HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, 11th February, 1887. [338

TO BE LET.
Possession on the 1st January, 1887.

THE PREMISES now occupied by Messrs. MELCHERS & Co. on the Praya and Pedder Street. The First and Second Floors will be let in Flats, Single Rooms, or in suits as Offices.

The GROUND FLOOR which has hitherto been occupied by Messrs. BLACKHEAD & Co. as a STORE, will also be let complete, or subdivided to meet the requirements.

All can be taken for a year or on Lease.

For Further Particulars, apply to
W. KERFOOT HUGHES,
Pedder's Street.
Hongkong, 17th September, 1886. [46

FOR SALE.

FOR SALE.

CHAS. HEIDSIECK'S
CHAMPAGNE, 1880 WHITE SEAL.
$21............ per case of 1 dozen quarts.
$22............ per case of 2 dozen pints.

PAUL DUBOIS & Co.'s
CLARET, GRAND VIN LEOVILLE.
$25............ per case of 1 dozen quarts.

CLARET, CHATEAU LAROSE.
$13............ per case of 1 dozen quarts.
$14............ per case of 2 dozen pints.

PONTET CANET.
$9.50............ per case of 1 dozen quarts.

PALMER MARGAUX.
$7.50............ per case of 1 dozen quarts.
$8.50............ per case of 2 dozen pints.

LORMONT.
$5............ per case of 1 dozen quarts.

JOHN WALKER & SONS'
OLD HIGHLAND WHISKEY.
$8............ per case of 1 dozen bottles.

ALSO,
CUTLER PALMER & Co.'s
WINES AND SPIRITS.

SIEMSSEN & Co.
Hongkong, 1st January, 1884. [19

FOR SALE.

ANGLO-CHINESE CALENDAR,
1887,
FOR THE DESK,
In RED AND BLACK,
In RED IMITATION MOROCCO CASE.
PRICE ONE DOLLAR.
KELLY & WALSH, W. BREWER, LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

FOR SALE,
AT WHOLESALE PRICES.

SACCONE'S SHERRY, PORT,
CLARETS, CHAMPAGNE.
HOCKS, BURGUNDY.
BRANDY, WHISKIES, ALE, STOUT.
MACHINERY, LAWN MOWERS.
S. ALES, BICYCLES.
PAINTS, OILS, VARNISH.
Apply to
W. G. HUMPHREYS & Co.,
Bank Buildings.
Hongkong, 1st January, 1886. [36

號 生 怡

YEE SUNG & Co.,
COAL MERCHANTS,
have always on hand
LARGE STOCKS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION OF COAL.
Address:—Care of Messrs. KWONG SUNG & Co.,
No. 68, PRAYA. [680

J. AND R. TENNENT'S ALE and PORTER.
DAVID CORSAR & SONS'
Merchant Navy
Navy Boiled
Long Flax
Crown
} CANVAS.
ARNHOLD, KARBERG & Co.
Hongkong, 11th May, 1867. [20

SQUARE BOTTLE WHISKY
NAPIER JOHNSTONE'S BLEND,
Superb Quality,
CUTLER, PALMER & Co.'s SELECTION.
Apply to
LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.,
2432] Hongkong

THE TOURIST'S GUIDE.
REDUCED PRICE, $1.

Containing the names of all the Articles of Trade, objects of Natural History, Furniture, &c., &c., with the Punti and Mandarin Pronunciation.

Also a few copies of the GRAMMAR OF THE CHINESE LANGUAGE, in two Parts.
The *Daily Press* Office.

WINTER TIME TABLE.

THE KOWLOON FERRY.

STEAM-LAUNCH
"MORNING STAR"

Runs Daily as a Ferry Boat between PEDDAR'S WHARF and TSIM-TSA-TSUI at the following hours:—This Time Table will take effect from the 21st October, 1886.

WEEK DAYS.		SUNDAYS.	
Leaves Kowloon	Leaves Hongkong	Leaves Kowloon	Leaves Hongkong
6.00 A.M.	7.00 A.M.	6.0 A.M.	7.00 A.M.
8.00 "	8.25 "	7.30 "	8.00 "
8.50 "	9.15 "	9.00 "	10.15 "
9.40 "	*10.20 "	10.30 "	10.45 "
*10.40 "	10.35 "	11.00 "	12.20 NOON.
11.15 "	12.25 P.M.	12.25 P.M.	1.15 P.M.
12.45 P.M.	1.00 "	1.25 "	1.55 "
1.25 "	1.55 "	2.25 "	2.55 "
2.20 "	2.55 "	3.25 "	3.55 "
3.25 "	3.55 "	4.10 "	4.25 "
4.10 "	4.25 "	4.50 "	5.10 "
4.50 "	5.10 "	6.25 "	5.40 "
5.25 "	5.40 "	6.55 "	6.15 "
5.55 "	6.15 "	6.30 "	6.45 "
6.30 "	6.45 "	7.00 "	
7.00 "			

*There will be no Launch on Monday and Friday, on account of coaling.

The above Time Table will be strictly adhered to, except under unavoidable circumstances. In case of stress of weather, due notice will be given of any stoppages. [33

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR PORT DARWIN, SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE.

THE Company's Steamship
"TAIYUAN,"
W. M. Dodd, Commander, will be despatched as above TO-DAY, the 15th instant, at NOON.

The attention of Passengers is directed to the Superior Accommodation offered by this Steamer. First-class Saloon and Cabins are situated forward of the Engines. Second Class Passengers are accommodated in the Poop. A Refrigerating Chamber ensures the supply of Fresh Provisions during the entire voyage.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.
Hongkong, 8th February, 1887. [193

THE "GIBB" LINE OF STEAMERS.

FOR SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE.
(Calling at PORT DARWIN and taking through Cargo for BRISBANE, ADELAIDE, TASMANIA, and NEW ZEALAND).

THE British Steamer
"DEEPDALE,"
Captain Sharp, shortly due with part Cargo from JAPAN will be despatched as above on or about the 15th instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,
Managers.
Hongkong, 4th February, 1887. [285

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

FOR SINGAPORE.

THE Company's Steamship
"MENELAUS,"
Captain Nelson, will be despatched as above TO-MORROW, the 16th instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.
Hongkong, 12th February, 1887. [95

STEAM TO YOKOHAMA VIA NAGASAKI AND KOBE.
(Passing through the INLAND SEA).

THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamship
"TEHERAN,"
will leave for the above places on FRIDAY, the 18th inst., at DAYLIGHT.

E. L. WOODIN,
Acting Superintendent.
Hongkong, 9th February, 1887. [1

FOR HAIPHONG.

THE Steamship
"SARTHE,"
Porteau, Master, will be despatched for the above Port on the 18th inst., at DAYLIGHT.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
CARLOWITZ & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, 12th February, 1887. [344

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

FOR LONDON VIA SUEZ CANAL.

THE Company's Steamship
"LAERTES,"
Captain Scale, will be despatched as above on FRIDAY, the 18th instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.
Hongkong, 12th February, 1887. [213

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

FOR SHANGHAI VIA AMOY.
(Taking Cargo and Passengers at through rates for NINGPO, CHEFOO, NEWCHWANG, TIENTSIN, HANKOW and PORTS on the YANGTSZE).

THE Company's Steamship
"PROMETHEUS,"
Captain Webster, will be despatched as above on FRIDAY, the 18th instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.
Hongkong, 11th February, 1887. [340

EASTERN AND AUSTRALIAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SYDNEY, MELBOURNE, AND ADELAIDE.
(Calling at PORT DARWIN and QUEENSLAND PORTS, and taking through Cargo to NEW ZEALAND, TASMANIA, &c.)

THE Steamship
"TANNADICE,"
Captain Craig, will be despatched for the above Ports on SATURDAY, the 19th instant, at FIVE P.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
RUSSELL & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, 2nd February, 1887. [271

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

FOR SHANGHAI VIA AMOY.
(Taking Cargo and Passengers at through rates for NINGPO, CHEFOO, NEWCHWANG, TIENTSIN, HANKOW, and PORTS on the YANGTSZE.)

THE Company's Steamship
"TELAMON,"
Captain Jackson, will be despatched as above on MONDAY, the 21st instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.
Hongkong, 14th February, 1887. [347

UNION LINE.

FOR NEW YORK VIA SUEZ CANAL.

THE Steamship
"METAPEDIA,"
Captain Purvis, will be despatched for the above Port on or about TUESDAY, the 22nd instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
RUSSELL & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, 8th February, 1887. [320

OCCIDENTAL AND ORIENTAL STEAM SHIP COMPANY.

TAKING CARGO AND PASSENGERS TO JAPAN, THE UNITED STATES, MEXICO, CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA, AND EUROPE;
VIA
THE OVERLAND RAILWAYS,
AND
ATLANTIC AND OTHER CONNECTING STEAMERS.

THE Steamship "BELGIC" will be despatched for San Francisco, *viâ* Yokohama, on SATURDAY, the 26th instant, at THREE P.M.

Connection being made at Yokohama with Steamers from Shanghai and Japan Ports.

All PARCEL PACKAGES should be marked to address in full; and same will be received at the Company's Office until FIVE P.M. the day previous to sailing.

RETURN PASSAGES.—Passengers, who have paid full fare, re-embarking at San Francisco for China or Japan (or *vice versa*) within six months, will be allowed a discount of 20 °/ₒ from Return Fare; if re-embarking within one year, an allowance of 10 °/ₒ will be made from Return Fare. Pre-Paid Return Passage Orders, available for one year, will be issued at a Discount of 25 °/ₒ from Return Fare. *These allowances do not apply to through fares from China and Japan to Europe.*

Consular Invoices to accompany Cargo destined to Ports beyond San Francisco should be sent to the Company's Offices, addressed to the Collector of Customs, San Francisco.

For further information as to Freight or Passage, apply to the Agency of the Company, No. 50A, Queen's Road Central.

C. D. HARMAN, Agent.
Hongkong, 1st February, 1887. [4

FOR VICTORIA (V.I.)

THE 3/3 A I. I. American Ship
"ENOS SOULE,"
Y. T. Soule, Master, will load here and will have quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to
MELCHERS & Co.
Hongkong, 21st January, 1887. [196

FOR LONDON AND HAMBURG.

THE 3/3 A I. I. Italian Bark
"ERMINIA C."
V. Rocio, Master, will load here for the above Ports, and will have quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to
PUSTAU & Co.
Hongkong, 1st January, 1887. [71

STEAM FOR
SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO, ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID, MALTA, GIBRALTAR, BRINDISI, ANCONA, VENICE, PLYMOUTH, AND LONDON;
ALSO,
BOMBAY, MADRAS, CALCUTTA, AND AUSTRALIA.

N.B.—CARGO CAN BE TAKEN ON THROUGH BILLS OF LADING FOR BATAVIA, PERSIAN GULF PORTS, MARSEILLES, TRIESTE, HAMBURG, NEW YORK, AND BOSTON.

SPECIE ONLY LANDED AT PLYMOUTH.

THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY'S Steamship "NEPAUL," Captain T. Alderton, with Her Majesty's Mails, will be despatched from this for LONDON viâ BOMBAY and SUEZ CANAL on TUESDAY, the 15th February, at FOUR P.M.

Cargo will be received on board until TEN A.M. Parcels and Specie (Gold) at the Office until TEN A.M., on the day of sailing.

Silk and Valuables for Europe will be transhipped at Colombo; Tea and General Cargo for London will be conveyed via Bombay without transhipment, arriving one week later than by the ordinary direct route viâ Colombo.

For further particulars regarding FREIGHT and PASSAGE apply to the PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY'S Office, Hongkong.

The Contents and Value of Packages are required to be declared prior to shipment.

Shippers are particularly requested to note the terms and conditions of the Company's Black Bills of Lading.

E. L. WOODIN,
Acting Superintendent.
Hongkong, 10th February, 1887. [1

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD.

NOTICE.

STEAM FOR
SINGAPORE, COLOMBO, ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID, TRIESTE, BRINDISI, ANTWERP, BREMEN, AND HAMBURG, PORTS IN THE LEVANTE, BLACK SEA AND BALTIC PORTS;
ALSO,
LONDON, NEW YORK, BOSTON, BALTIMORE, NEW ORLEANS, GALVESTON, AND SOUTH AMERICAN PORTS.

THE COMPANY'S STEAMERS WILL CALL AT SOUTHAMPTON TO LAND PASSENGERS AND LUGGAGE.

N.B.—CARGO CAN BE TAKEN ON THROUGH BILLS OF LADING FOR THE PRINCIPAL PLACES IN RUSSIA.

ON MONDAY, the 21st day of February 1887, at NOON, the Company's Steamship "NURNBERG," Captain Berdrow, with MAILS, PASSENGERS, SPECIE, and CARGO, will leave this Port as above.

Shipping Orders will be granted till NOON, Cargo will be received on Board until 4 P.M., Specie and Parcels until 3 P.M., on the 20th of February, 1887. (Parcels are not to be sent on Board; they must be left at the Agency's Office). Contents and Value of Packages are required.

The Steamer has splendid Accommodation and carries a Doctor and Stewardess.

Linen can be washed on Board.

For Further Particulars, apply to
MELCHERS & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, 26th January, 1887. [7

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.
PAQUEBOTS POSTE FRANCAIS.

NOTICE.

STEAM FOR
SAIGON, SINGAPORE, BATAVIA, COLOMBO, PONDICHERRY, MADRAS, CALCUTTA, ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID, MEDITERRANEAN, AND BLACK SEA PORTS, MARSEILLES, AND PORTS OF BRAZIL AND LA PLATA;
ALSO,
LONDON, HAVRE, BORDEAUX, DUNKIRK, AND ANTWERP.

ON TUESDAY, the 22nd February, at Noon, the Company's Steamship "OCEANIEN," Commandant Didier, with MAILS, PASSENGERS, SPECIE, and CARGO, will leave this Port for the above places.

Cargo and Specie will be registered for London as well as for Marseilles, and accepted in transit through Marseilles for the principal places of Europe.

Shipping Orders will be granted till NOON, Cargo will be received on board until 4 P.M., Specie and—Parcels until 3 P.M., on the 21st February, 1887. (Parcels are not to be sent on board; they must be left at the Agency's Office.) Contents and value of Packages are required.

For further particulars, apply at the Company's Office.

G. DE CHAMPEAUX,
Agent.
Hongkong, 11th February, 1887. [2

U. S. MAIL LINE.

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

THROUGH TO NEW YORK, VIA OVERLAND RAILWAYS, AND TOUCHING AT YOKOHAMA AND SAN FRANCISCO.

THE U. S. Mail Steamer "CITY OF PEKING," will be despatched for San Francisco, viâ Yokohama, on WEDNESDAY, the 9th March, at THREE P.M., taking Passengers and Freight for Japan, the United States and Europe.

Through Bills of Lading issued for transportation to Yokohama and other Japan Ports, to San Francisco, to Atlantic and Inland Cities of the United States, viâ Overland Railways, to Havana, Trinidad, and Demerara, and to ports in Mexico, Central and South America, by the Company's and connecting Steamers.

Through Passage Tickets granted to England, France, and Germany by all trans-Atlantic lines of Steamers.

RETURN PASSAGES.—Passengers, who have paid full fare, re-embarking at San Francisco for China or Japan (or *vice versa*) within six months, will be allowed a discount of 20 °/ₒ from Return Fare; if re-embarking within one year, an allowance of 10 °/ₒ will be made from Return Fare. Pre-paid Return Passage Orders, available for one year, will be issued at a Discount of 25 °/ₒ from Return Fare. *These allowances do not apply to through fares from China and Japan to Europe.*

Freight will be received on board until 4 P.M. on the day previous to sailing, Parcel Packages will be received at the Office until 5 P.M. same day; all Parcel Packages should be marked to address in full; value of same is required.

Consular Invoices to accompany Cargo destined to Ports beyond San Francisco should be sent to the Company's Offices in Sealed Envelopes, addressed to the Collector of Customs at San Francisco.

For further information as to Passage and Freight, apply to the Agency of the Company, No. 50A, Queen's Road Central.

C. D. HARMAN, Agent.
Hongkong, 14th February, 1887. [3

FOR NEW YORK.

THE 3/3 L II Norwegian Bark
"PROFESSOR MOHN,"
O. Jensen, Master, will load here for the above Port, and will have quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to
PUSTAU & Co.
Hongkong, 1st February, 1887. [260

FOR LONDON AND HAMBURG.

THE 3/3 L II American Ship
"SARAH HIGNETT,"
Morgan, Master, will load here for the above Port, and will have quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to
CARLOWITZ & Co.
Hongkong 25th January, 1887. [207

FOR SAN FRANCISCO.

THE 3/3 A 1/1 American Ship
"OREGON,"
J. H. Merriman, Master, will load here for the above Port, and will have quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to
MELCHERS & Co.
Hongkong, 8th January, 1887. [122

FOR VICTORIA, B.C.

THE 3/3 A. I. I. American Bark
"ESCORT,"
Captain Waterhouse, will load here for the above Port, and will have quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to
GONSALVES & Co.
Hongkong, 8th February, 1887. [318

FOR HONOLULU.

THE 3/3 A I. I. American Barkentine
"HATTIE N. BANGS,"
Captain Bangs, will load here for the above Port, and will have quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to
GONSALVES & Co.
Hongkong, 8th February, 1887. [319

FOR SAN FRANCISCO.

[illegible] 100 [illegible] British Ship
"[illegible]NHILDA,"
R. [illegible] load here for the above Port, and will [illegible] quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to
RUSSELL & Co.
Hongkong, 10th January, 1887. [125

FOR PORTLAND (OREGON.)

THE 3/3 L. I.I. Am. Bark
"COLOMA,"
C. M. Noyes, Master, will load here and will have quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to
MELCHERS & Co.
Hongkong, 21st December, 1886. [2391

FOR NEW YORK.

THE 3/3 L II American Bark
"EDWARD KIDDER,"
Griffin Master, will load here for the above Port, and will have quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to
CARLOWITZ & Co.
Hongkong, 20th January, 1887. [190

FOR HAMBURG, DIRECT.

THE 3/3 L II German Bark
"ANNIE,"
Kröncke, Master, will load here for the above Port, and will have quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to
PUSTAU & Co.
Hongkong, 29th January, 1887. [236

MAILS EXPECTED.

THE AMERICAN MAIL.

The Pacific Mail steamer *City of Peking*, with the American mail of the 22nd January, left Yokohama on the 13th, and may be expected here on or about the 19th instant.

THE FRENCH MAIL.

The M. M. steamer *Oxus*, with the French mail of 14th January, left Singapore at noon on the 12th, and may be expected here on or about the 21st instant.

STEAMERS EXPECTED.

The Union Line steamer *Victoria* left Singapore on the 7th, and is due here on the 15th inst.

The O. S. S. Co.'s steamer *Prometheus* left Singapore on the morning of the 10th, and is due here on the 16th inst.

The Glen Line steamer *Glenartney* left Singapore on the 10th, and is due here on the 17th instant.

The O. S. S. Co.'s steamer *Telamon* left Singapore on the 13th, and is due here on the 19th instant.

The Austro-Hungarian Lloyd's steamer *Thisbe* left Singapore on the morning of the 13th, and is due here on the 20th instant.

The E. & A. S. S. Co.'s steamer *Catterthun* left Port Darwin on the 11th, and is due here on the 21st instant.

POST-OFFICE NOTICES.

When Correspondence has been mis-sent or delayed (both of which are liable to happen occasionally) all that the addressee need do is to note on the cover, *Sent to* ——, or *Received at 7 p.m.*, or as the case may be, and forward it, without any other writing whatever, to the Postmaster-General. This should be acted on the first time cause of complaint occurs; it is a mistake to let such matters pass for fear of giving trouble, a course which generally gives more trouble in the end.

LOCAL DELIVERY.—No delivery is attempted on board Ship, at the Peak, Kowloon, Aberdeen, &c., nor at any private house (even though [illegible] the address) when there is a place of [illegible] which delivery can be [illegible]

[illegible] 1886, revised to date will be found in the *Daily Press* Directory, p. 385 large edition, p. 701 small edition. This is the only authorised complete Summary of Postal information published in Hongkong.

☞ The authorised List of Mails issued in connection with this paper is the one published twice each day in our Extra, which is always corrected to a much later hour than that given below.

A MAIL WILL CLOSE.

For Hoihow.—Per *Dafila*, to-day, the 15th inst., at 7.30 A.M.

For Yokohama.—Per *Johann*, to-day, the 15th instant, at 9.30 A.M.

For Port Darwin, Sydney, and Melbourne.—Per *Taiyuan*, to-day, the 15th inst., at 11.30 A.M.

For Amoy and Taiwanfoo.—Per *Formosa*, to-day, the 15th inst., at 2.30 P.M.

For Shanghai.—Per *Kungpai*, to-day, the 15th inst., at 2.30 P.M.

For Saigon.—Per *Alwine Syed*, to-day, the 15th inst., at 2.30 P.M.

For Swatow, Amoy, and Foochow.—Per *Namoa*, to-day, the 15th inst., at 5.00 P.M.

For Bangkok.—Per *Kong Beng*, to-morrow, the 16th inst., at 1.30 P.M.

For Nagasaki, Kobe, and Yokohama.—Per *Teheran*, on Thursday, the 17th inst., at 5.00 P.M.

For Port Darwin, Thursday Island, Cooktown, Townsville, Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, and Adelaide.—Per *Tannadice*, on Saturday, the 19th inst., at 4.30 P.M.

HOURS FOR CLOSING THE CONTRACT MAILS.

THE ENGLISH MAIL.

The following hours are observed in closing Mails, &c., by the British Contract Packet:—

Day of Departure.

NOON.—Money Order Office closes.
2.00 P.M.—Registry of Letters ceases. Posting of all printed matter and patterns ceases.
3.00 P.M.—Mails closed, except for Late Letters.
3.10 P.M.—Letters may be posted with late fee of 10 cents until
3.30 P.M.—when the Post Office closes entirely.
3.40 P.M.—Late Letters may be posted on board the packet with late fee of 10 cents, until time of departure.

MAILS BY THE FRENCH PACKET.

The French Contract Packet *Oceanien* will be despatched TUESDAY, on the 22nd instant, with Mails for the United Kingdom, Europe and places beyond, *viâ Naples*; to Saigon, Straits Settlements, Batavia, Burmah, Ceylon, the Australasian Colonies, Pondichéry, Madras, Calcutta, Aden, Mauritius, Egypt, Malta, and Gibraltar.

The usual hours will be observed in closing the Mails, &c.

MAILS BY THE UNITED STATES PACKET.

The United States Mail Packet *Belgic* will be despatched on SATURDAY, the 26th instant, with Mails for Japan, San Francisco, the United States, Canada, Honolulu, Peru, &c., which will be closed as follows:—

2.15 P.M., Registry ceases.
2.30 P.M., Post Office closes, but Correspondence may be posted on board the Packet with Late Fee of 10 cents extra Postage until the time of departure.

The Post Office declines all responsibility for Unregistered Letters containing Bank Notes, Coin, or Jewellery, and, where Registration has been neglected, will make no enquiries into alleged losses of such letters.

Printed and Published by R. CHATTERTON WILCOX Wyndham Street, Hongkong.

MAIL SUPPLEMENT TO THE HONGKONG DAILY PRESS.

HONGKONG, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH, 1887.

THE DEFENCE OF THE BRITISH COALING STATIONS.

The letter addressed to *The Times* by the Earl of CARNARVON on the defence of the coaling stations was undoubtedly most opportune. As the noble lord remarks, in the commencement of his letter, it was clear that this question was involved in the controversy which resulted in the resignation of Lord RANDOLPH CHURCHILL, and there was some danger that the British public might, in sympathising with the Chancellor of the Exchequer, be inclined to condemn the expenditure on the fortification of the coaling stations. Lord CARNARVON is perhaps of all British statesmen the one best qualified to express an opinion on the subject. As an ex-Secretary of State for the Colonies who distinguished himself beyond almost every other occupant of the post by the keen interest and close attention he gave to colonial affairs, and since then as Chairman of the Royal Commission appointed "to inquire into the condition and sufficiency of the means, both naval and military, provided for the defence of the more important sea-ports within our Colonial possessions and other dependencies," he acquired such an amount of information as entitles him to be ranked as one of the soundest authorities on the question. Lord CARNARVON tells us that the Royal Commission—over which he presided for three years, and which collected a mass of evidence which, though it has never yet seen the light, if published would create the gravest anxiety if not absolute alarm—were unanimously agreed upon two main points—first, the extreme peril to the British navy and commerce from leaving the coaling stations undefended; secondly, the mode of that defence. The noble earl goes on to observe that three successive Administrations have all unreservedly pledged themselves in principle to the vital necessity of the defences recommended by the Royal Commission, and adds:—"Coal has become the most potent factor in the arithmetic of naval war. Without it our foreign commerce and our vast carrying trade cease to exist; without it our ships of war can neither fight nor move; and even with it there is no security, unless it is adequately protected, for it becomes the prey of the first hostile cruiser." Major-General Sir ANDREW CLARKE, R.E., late Inspector-General of Fortifications, whose opinion as a professional man and as a former Governor of one of the most important of the coaling stations [Singapore], is of the highest value, says, when writing on the resignation of Lord RANDOLPH CHURCHILL:—"It is sufficient to state that, unless a war coal supply is available for our ships an ocean-going navy is useless, and that, failing defence, no war coal supply exist. Naval preponderance, however great, is worthless for the defence of our commerce and the distant portions of the Empire, as well as powerless for executing the commands of the nation, without protected coal." The case in favour of the effective defence of the coaling stations has been proved to the very hilt, and Sir ANDREW CLARKE contends that the empire stands committed to that part of the estimate for Imperial defence and that the work should be rapidly carried out.

Both Lord CARNARVON and Sir ANDREW CLARKE award high praise to Hongkong and Singapore for the large sums contributed by them towards their respective defences, and the noble lord remarks that "the Imperial contribution of guns is yet wanting at Singapore." We are not aware that any of the long promised heavy breech-loading ordnance have arrived in this colony, and we hope Lord CARNARVON does not imagine that, because a few very ordinary muzzle-loading guns of comparatively obsolete type have been despatched, the Hongkong fortifications have received their armament. Should he entertain that erroneous belief, he will not be greatly surprised to learn of the mistake judging from the following very frank admission when referring to the agreement between the Imperial Government and the Crown Colonies on the question of the defences:—"Roughly speaking, the agreement is that they should provide the works and that the Home Government should furnish the armaments, and it generally happens that the Government is the last to complete its part of the bargain." Unfortunately this is only too true, and not only in regard to the defences but also in connection with the garrisons of the coaling stations. As we have shown above, the necessity for the fortifications has been admitted, and some progress at least has been made towards their provision. The necessity for increasing the garrisons has also been demonstrated and admitted, though the facts have so far not leaked out. We happen to know, however, that it is considered by the Military authorities at home that to properly man the fortifications and efficiently protect this Colony three more regiments and two batteries of Artillery ought to be sent out. That the garrison will be reinforced eventually there is no reason to doubt, but the question is when? The Duke of CAMBRIDGE some time ago gave the House of Lords plainly to understand, during a discussion on the report of the Royal Commission on the Imperial Defences, that he was not in a position to deny that we had not the means at the Empire's present disposal to garrison the coaling stations in war, even if defensive works for them were provided. If this be the case, seeing that the "vital necessity" for defending these stations is admitted on all hands, it becomes the special duty of the War Office to raise fresh troops for the purpose. It is not necessary that all the soldiers employed to garrison the coaling stations should be drawn from the British isles. There is, as we recently pointed out, abundant material in India, and one or two more regiments might well be enlisted in the West Indies for service in Ceylon, Mauritius, Singapore, and Hongkong. There ought to be no lack of men, and as for the expense, that is an item which might easily be provided for by the abolition of some of the sinecures against which the late Chancellor of the Exchequer intended to commence a crusade. That economy should reign in the departments, and reductions be made where possible, must be the desire of the British taxpayer, but he surely will not be inclined to murmur at an expenditure which is really an insurance on the foreign commerce of the empire—a commerce which is the foundation of its wealth and power, which is in fact its very life.

PROSECUTING JUSTICES ON THE BENCH.

In a Treasury prosecution at the Police Court on the 5th inst. the Colonial Treasurer occupied a seat on the bench. In doing so he followed the general practice of the Heads of Departments. These gentlemen are all Justices of the Peace, and when there is any case at the Police Court which requires their attendance they invariably take a seat by the side of the magistrate. In this they are strictly within their rights, but the practice is attended with some inconvenience and ought, we think, to be discontinued. If Mr. A., a merchant and a Justice of the Peace, had occasion to prosecute his compradore for embezzlement it would be considered decidedly unseemly that he should occupy a seat on the bench while the case was being heard. It is only a degree less so when the official who sets in motion a Government prosecution sits on the bench. The only difference is that in the latter case there is supposed to be a total absence of personal feeling of any kind whatsoever, whereas in private prosecutions the feelings of the prosecutor towards the accused may be a pertinent subject of inquiry. Government prosecutions are more impersonal than private prosecutions, and there is therefore somewhat less objection to the presence of the official who institutes a prosecution sitting on the bench than there is to an unofficial Justice who institutes a private prosecution. But the difference is simply one of degree. It can hardly be expected that any individual official will break through the established practice of his own motion, nor is it desirable that he should do so. The question is one which ought to be definitely settled by the Government and not left to the discretion or good taste of individuals. On Saturday Mr. MACKEAN said "he did not wish that the defendant should feel that he had been made to suffer the more severely because the Colonial Treasurer had occupied a seat upon the bench, so before deciding the case he would take time to consult with other authorities upon the matter." The practice has often been protested against, and very vigorously, by advocates on behalf of parties accused, and we now have from a Magistrate what virtually amounts to a statement that the presence of a prosecutor on the bench is embarrassing to the court. Under these circumstances the Government will perhaps think it right to issue a recommendation that in future Justices of the Peace who are in any way concerned in a case at the Police Court, either individually or as Head of a Government department, should abstain from exercising their right to take a seat on the Bench.

THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE.

The Hon. C. P. CHATER has taken the initiative in the matter of the celebration of Her Majesty's Jubilee, and at the meeting of the Legislative Council will ask the Government what their intentions are concerning it. We are not in a position to anticipate what the nature of the reply will be. Of one thing, however, there can be no doubt, namely, that before the Government decides on anything the community ought to be called together in order to determine what manner of celebration will be the most popular and to appoint an executive committee to carry out the arrangements. The committee thus appointed would then be in a position to enter into communication with the Government with a view to combined action. It is understood that certain gentlemen have already formed themselves into a committee, without taking any steps to ascertain whether their services in that capacity will be acceptable to the community. They say, in justification of their action, that some one must take the lead; but, while not wishing to question the good intentions and public spirit of these gentlemen, we would venture to suggest that there are certain members of the community whose position naturally indicates them as the proper parties to take the lead on an occasion of this kind. In the provinces of India public meetings have been called to consider the question and have been presided over by the Governor. With the abolition of the office of Sheriff in Hongkong the machinery which formerly existed for calling public meetings by an official process has disappeared, but a meeting convened by any representative man for a public purpose would be duly attended and recognised as a public meeting. We would suggest, therefore, that either the Acting Governor, the Chief Justice, or the senior unofficial member of Council, or the three conjointly, should convene a public meeting for the purpose of affording the community an opportunity of expressing its wishes as to the form the celebration should take. The gentlemen who have already been bestirring themselves in the matter would doubtless find places on the committee, and having been regularly appointed and instructed they would then be able to act much more effectively. The matter is far too important to be left to any self-constituted or semi-private committee. Unless the demonstration be of a thoroughly popular character, heartily joined in by Her Majesty's subjects of every rank and station, it would be better to have no demonstration at all. We need hardly say that nothing could be more calculated to render the affair unpopular than for a small clique to assume the direction of affairs without any authority from the community at large. We are glad therefore that Mr. CHATER has taken the opportunity of bringing the matter before the Legislative Council. His question will effectively set the ball a-rolling, and public action will no doubt follow.

A few words as to the form of the celebration may not be out of place here. In India the celebration is to take place during the present cool season. In England it will be held probably in June; it was understood to be Her Majesty's wish that it should not take place before. Presumably it has been ascertained that the fixing of an earlier date in India would not be regarded with disfavour by Her Majesty. The reason, of course, is that the summer would be a very unsuitable season in which to hold festivities on a large scale in India, besides which, the celebration in the capital would have been robbed of a good deal of its magnificence had it taken place during the absence of the Viceregal Court, which during the hot weather finds a home at Simla. There are drawbacks in Hongkong also to the holding of fêtes in the summer, though they possess much less force than in India. In any case, it seems to be a matter of Hobson's choice now. It is too late to do anything during the present winter, and there are very obvious objections to deferring the celebration until next winter. While we are glad to believe that there is little or no ground for the sensational telegram which appeared in the American papers a short time ago with reference to the state of Her Majesty's health, and that there is every probability of the throne being still occupied for many years by the gracious lady who has filled it with such lustre for the last half century, yet common regard to the uncertainty of human existence ought to prevent the postponement of such an event as that of the celebration of the Queen's Jubilee. Supplementary festivities in the shape of balls may be held during the next cool season if it be thought well when the time arrives, but the principal celebration ought to be held before the close of the present year of Her Majesty's reign. It will no doubt be difficult to devise much in the way of public entertainment that will be altogether satisfactory for the summer, but if a public meeting be held and a strong representative committee appointed suggestions will no doubt flow in in considerable number. A special meeting of the Legislative Council will of course be held to adopt a congratulatory address to Her Majesty, and naturally the meeting will be attended with all the ceremony and pomp local conditions admit of. If the Council had happened to be strong in eloquence a feature might have been made of the oratory, but under the circumstances this can hardly be looked for. There will also in all probability be a reception at Government House to afford the community the opportunity of paying their respects in person to the representative of Her Majesty. A general parade of the troops will also form part of the programme. There will be the royal salute both afloat and ashore, and all the ships in harbour, men-of-war merchantmen, will be dressed. This we may consider, will be the official part of the programme. It remains to be seen how far the community will supplement it. On one evening we might have a general illumination of the city, on another a fête and fireworks in the Gardens, and on a third perhaps the British community might wish to invite their friends of other nationalities to some form of entertainment in the City Hall. Perhaps some of our readers may have other suggestions to put forward, and if so our columns are open for their ventilation. We hope at all events the matter will be widely discussed, so that if a public meeting be held in reference to it the decision arrived at may be the result of careful consideration and not the thoughtless adoption of any scheme struck off in the hurry of the moment.

We have spoken in the preceding paragraph only of a programme of festivities. The question remains whether the occasion should not be commemorated by some enduring memorial. There is the Imperial and Colonial Institute, which has been decided upon as the national memorial and to which a contribution might fittingly be made by this colony. But, ought we not to have a local memorial? Hongkong was the first colony acquired by the British Crown after Her Majesty's accession (though Natal runs it rather closely), the whole of its history is included in that of Her Majesty's reign, and it seems only reasonable that the present generation of colonists should transmit to their successors some permanent memorial of the jubilee of a Sovereign who has endeared herself to her subjects in all parts of the world and in whose reign the colony was settled and has grown to the state of prosperity it at present enjoys. Many towns in England intend to commemorate the occasion by the establishment of useful institutions of one kind and another. In Hongkong we much need a public park, and as there seems no prospect of the Government's carrying out the Bowen Park project for at least a quarter of a century, the idea of the community's taking the matter in hand itself and changing the name to the Queen's Park might be considered. There would be no discourtesy to Sir GEORGE BOWEN in changing the name under the circumstances, seeing that he was unable to carry out his intention of having the park made during his Government and that the work is still practically uncommenced. Another idea which might be considered is that of an educational endowment of some description. Very little has been done in Hongkong for the education of girls. Why not establish and endow a high class school and call it the Victoria Female College? The erection of a statue of Her Majesty is an idea that will probably occur to many minds, and there are no doubt other suggestions which might be made, though they do not present themselves to us at present. In mentioning those we have already put forward our object has been not to advocate the adoption of any particular one but to induce consideration and elicit other suggestions, with a view to the selection of that form of memorial which under all the circumstances may seem to be the best. It will be impossible to inaugurate the memorial (supposing one be decided upon) on the occasion of the Jubilee celebration, as the time is too short to allow of the completion of any work of importance, but the subscription ought to be closed and the funds placed in the hands of trustees by that time. Meanwhile, the first step to be taken should be to call a public meeting, for it is only by this means that the real wishes of the community can be reliably ascertained and the executive committee acquire valid authority to act. Whatever form may be finally determined upon, we trust the celebration will be one which will be worthy of the occasion and a credit to the colony.—*11th February.*

ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL ORGAN FUND FANCY FAIR AND FÊTE.

Hongkong is really very deeply indebted in more ways than one to the promoters of the movement for supplying St. John's Cathedral with a new organ. It has to thank them for a magnificent instrument which will shortly be erected in St. John's and also to acknowledge the inauguration of two novel and most agreeable forms of entertainment. The first Al Fresco Fête in the Botanic Gardens, at all events for a great many years, owed its existence to this energetic body, and it will be generally acknowledged that this brilliant plan has proved an almost unequalled means of raising funds for benevolent or laudable purposes, and at the same time of spending some most delightful evenings. The Committee have now launched out into another direction with an equally happy idea. At this cold season of the year, an Al Fresco Fête was out of the question, but the Committee were nevertheless not to be thrown back upon the commonplace and much less effective expedients of bazaars, concerts, or theatrical performances. With a most creditable breadth of fancy they determined to combine all these things, in a highly improved form, into one large gathering. With the exception of the Library and Museum, the whole of the public part of the City Hall has been engaged for this effort. The bazaar has been changed into a fancy fair in a mediæval village; the concert is not there, but in its place there is a great novelty for this part of the world, a panorama; and the dramatic performance is also there, but not with any hackneyed comedy or farce, local talent having had an opportunity of blossoming forth, and our "local Burnand" as Capt. Bunbury was termed on a previous occasion, has given another sparkling production from his facile pen of an entirely original and local character.

Before going into details respecting this Fancy Fair and Fête it might be as well to refer briefly to the object for which so much labour and enterprise has been expended. The present organ in St John's Cathedral, as has been known for some time, owing to the excessive wear and tear caused by this trying climate and the ravages of rats, white ants, cockroaches, &c., is in anything but a satisfactory condition and has been pronounced beyond repairing so as to put it in an efficient state. It has already been patched many times, and about three years ago it was definitely decided to replace it by a new, a better, and more powerful organ. The result of the first subscription list circulated was very satisfactory, the community being in sympathy with the movement, and an order was given to the well known organ building firm of Messrs. Walker & Sons, of London, for an instrument for which the price is £2,000. The order was given in February, 1885, and the organ is expected but very shortly. An organ chamber has already been prepared for it in the Cathedral, facing the present organ, on the other side of the choir. It will be a little larger than the organ in Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, and is therefore, probably the largest organ in the Far East. When the order was given we published a description of its stops, &c., but two years have since elapsed, and the facts given then will doubtless be forgotten by most who read them. There are in all 42 stops, and appended are their appellations and dimensions:—Great—double diapason 16 feet, open diapason 8 feet, horn diapason 8 feet, stopped diapason and wald flute treble 8 feet, principal 4 feet, harmonic flute 4 feet, twelfth 2⅔ feet, fifteenth 2 feet, mixture (3 ranks), posaune 8 feet, clarion 4 feet. Swell—bourdon 16 feet, open diapason 8 feet, stopped diapason 8 feet, echo gamba 8 feet, voix celeste (tenor c) 8 feet, principal 4 feet, gemshorn 2 feet, mixture 3 ranks, mixture 2 ranks, horn 8 feet, hautboy 8 feet, vox humana 8 feet, clarion 4 feet. Choir Organ—salcional 8 feet, dulciana 8 feet, lieblich gedact 8 feet, flute 4 feet, gemshorn 4 feet, clarionet 8 feet. Pedal Organ—open diapason 16 feet, bourdon 16 feet, principal 8 feet, quint 12 feet, trombone 16 feet. Couplers—swell to pedals, swell to great, great to pedals, choir to pedals, swell to choir, super-oct. swell to great, pedal octave. There are three composition pedals (great), three composition pedals (swell), and a greumbaut swell. The organ is to be not only a powerful and superior instrument as to tone, but it is also to be a handsome one, in every respect worthy of the sacred edifice which it will adorn.

Turning again to the Fête and Fancy Fair, we must not omit to do justice to those who have been instrumental in bringing about the very pleasant evening's entertainment the public were able to enjoy on Friday and Saturday night. Mr. H. M. Thomsett is the Hon. Secretary of the Organ Fund, and his labours have been most conscientious and praiseworthy. Just on the eve of this fête he was unfortunately overtaken with sickness, and Mr. J. H. Stewart-Lockhart and Mr. J. Orange undertook between them, at short notice, his work. The Committee is composed as follows:—Hon. A. Lister, Hon. A. P. MacEwen, Rev. F. A. J. Gace, Commander Rumsey, R. N.; Capt. Bunbury, Messrs. J. G. Coughtrie, C. F. A. Sangster, C. Ford, C. Palmer, J. Orange, and Dr. Ho Kai on the gentlemen's side. Half the Committee, however, is composed of ladies, to whom a very large share of the credit is due; they are:—Mrs. Marsh, Lady Phillippo, Mrs. Morant, Mrs. Bell-Irving, Mrs. Wise, Mrs. Withers, Mrs. Brooke, Mrs. Walter, Mrs. Adams, Mrs. Manson, Mrs. Anton, and Miss Thomsett. To these workers must be added the name of Mrs. T. Jackson, who though absent from the colony, has yet rendered material assistance to the scheme by selecting in England, and sending out here, the whole stock in trade of the shops at the Fancy Fair. The goods have been selected with great judgment, and the ladies have, owing to the prices at which they were purchased, been enabled to sell them at very reasonable charges, which is not a conspicuous feature of most bazaars or fancy fairs. Those who visited the City Hall on Friday and Saturday will be unanimous in opinion that the Committee have done their work well, and that in planning this fête, &c., they have hit upon an excellent idea, and one which will doubtless be followed in the future by other bodies.

The work of the Committee chiefly lay on the upper floor of the building. Beyond the planting of pot plants round the pillars and the arrangement of tables for a cloak room, the entrance hall and staircase call for no description, and the theatre wears its ordinary aspect. The greatest field of activity has been the St. George's Hall, in which, and in the adjoining ante room, has been erected the Mediæval Village. Mr. C. Palmer has been the architect, and Mr. Baptista the artist of this most pleasing feature. The houses are in the Early English style, which is now fast becoming so fashionable in England—brick and timber built buildings with overhanging upper stories. One on the eastern side of St. George's Hall is quite a large structure, containing two shops, one on either side of an archway which leads into the verandah; the others are of a uniform cottage type; beside these cottages there is a stall covered over with canopy, and a circular structure in the centre of the room bright with flowers and foliage, and this is dedicated to Flora. There are light arches of leaves and flowers all round it, and on the stand a garish display of flowers vended by a number of the nymphs who are inside the charmed circle. The other establishments have displays of fancy and useful articles, tasty little nicknacks, &c., of the kind usually seen in bazaars. One is entirely set apart for the sale of fancy glass and china ware, and the objects that are there offered for sale are well worth inspecting, as they include a great number of most tasteful novelties. Another stall has a display of books, fancy stationery, framed photographs of celebrated beauties, all kind of designs in plush trifles, hand painted mirrors, and a variety of things too numerous to mention in detail. The others show all kinds of artistic needlework, dolls in dresses that might have come from Worth's, and all the thousand and one pretty trifles which at these sales usually tempt the dollars from the visitors, when offered by such irresistible shopkeepers.

In one corner is the gipsy encampment. The gipsies here depicted are evidently ideal specimens, and their camp is also decidedly ideal and doubtless it is far more agreeable to all concerned that it should be so. There is an enclosure inside which the feet tread upon verdure made by the yard, and amid a bower of plants and flowers there is a placard intimating that somebody's "straight cut" can be purchased there. The fair representatives of the Romany race here sell the fragrant weed in the various forms in which it is commonly consumed. In an inner sanctum, which represents the gipsy's tent, sits the sibyl, who reads the dim pages of futurity to the curious for a small consideration. This witch also dispenses talismans, and her assistants run weighing machines, and sell pocket knives and Bohemian works of art. On one of the stalls there is a wheel of fortune—"all prizes and no blanks"—which is under the management of Mother Hubbard, Dame Trot, and the White Witch. In the ante room there is another cottage, where is dispensed tea, confectionery, and various kinds of light refreshment, while in the room adjoining the Theatre, commonly used as a ladies or card room at the balls, there is a bar for the sale of liquids of a more potent character. All the ladies who preside at these stalls are in fancy dresses—Russians, Swiss, Italians, Dames of the Red Cross, Vivandières, Flower girls, representatives of the four seasons, Watteau shepherdesses, ladies of the last century, &c. The effect of these quaint and varied costumes is charming, and the whole scene at the Village is extremely picturesque. On Friday night it was full of visitors, and was one of the most animated spectacles the building has ever contained. The stallkeepers were most energetic and pushing, and contrived to dispose of a considerable quantity of their wares.

The following are the ladies who officiated at the various shops in the Village:—*Glass and Chinaware Stall*—Mrs. Brooke, Mrs. Morant, Mrs. Parker, Mrs. Ryan, Miss Morant; *Stationery Stall*—Mrs. Ford, Miss Crown, Mrs. Lammert, Miss Lammert, and Miss Croisdale; *Toy and Fancy Stall*—Mrs. Adams, Mrs. Stolterfoht, Mrs. Gower, and Miss Hanschild; *Flower Stall*—Mrs. Bell-Irving, Mrs. Wise, Mrs. Bunbury, Misses Holworthy, and Miss Fearon; *Fancy Stall*—Mrs. Walter, Mrs. Veitch, Mrs. Whittall, and Miss Hazeland; *Wheel of Fortune*—Miss Thomsett, Mrs. Wright, and Miss Lobb; *Gipsy Encampment*—Mrs. Manson, Misses Withers, and Miss Royal; *Refreshment Stall*—Mrs. Storer, Mrs. Ellis, Mrs. Just, Mrs. Poesnecker, Mrs. Hanschild, Miss Herbert, Miss A. Thomsett, Miss L. Lobb, and Miss W. Hazeland.

The St Andrew's Hall was used for the panorama, which was on view every hour. It is all seated out, and the panorama is at the eastern end. The Soudan War is well depicted on over 1,000 feet of canvas, which is wound on rollers in the usual way, and the representations are greatly assisted by a large number of mechanical figures. The show appeared to be greatly appreciated, and the lecturer, who was quite au fait with his work, was frequently applauded. The afternoon performance on Saturday afforded the children a rare treat. Mr. C. F. A. Sangster presided at the piano at this entertainment.

The verandahs were all closed in and provided with seats, thus affording a capital promenade and lounging place, where smokers were allowed to indulge their weakness.

The list of attractions is made complete by the fine Band of the Northamptonshire Regiment, which played, under Mr. Moran, a capital selection of music during the evening.

In the Theatre Royal at ten o'clock, a burlesque written for the occasion by Captain Bunbury, R.A., entitled "The Lily of the (Happy) Valley; or, The Test! The Tout! and the Taipan!" was performed before a good house. "Buttercup Bower," by the same author, was so well received that Captain Bunbury was encouraged to produce a burlesque for this occasion, and he is to be heartily congratulated on the success of his second effort. It is of course built upon a very airy fabric, and some of the fun is, as in most burlesques, a little strained. But the merits of a burlesque must be judged by the manner in which it goes, and it must be admitted that "The Lily of the (Happy) Valley" went off swimmingly last night, and may fairly be pronounced a great local success.

The following is the argument. The scene is laid in Wong Nei Cheong, time 1890. Jemima Brown, a rich but miserly old woman, living at Wong Nei Cheong with her young niece Molly, is deprived of her fortune by the discovery of a long lost will, which shows the rightful owner of her money to be a certain Tom Handicap, a trainer of ponies. [illegible] at the loss of her money, Jemima [illegible] a "joss-pidgin man," and by his aid in magic assumes the outward form of her niece, in order to captivate and marry Tom and so regain her fortune; while Molly is turned into the semblance of Jemima. The power of the spell is to endure until, old and ugly as she appears, Molly is "loved for herself alone." While casting the spell, Jemima is surprised by Timothy Legge, a worthy who gains his livelihood as a tout and general spy. She trusts him with her secret, and in order to get Molly safely settled, he engages to marry her to the Hon. John Godown, Jemima's landlord, by representing that she is very rich, since, if married for money and not for love the spell will not be invalidated. Godown, attracted by her supposed wealth, proposes marriage to Molly, who tests his sincerity by requiring certain reforms to be made, in the performance of which task Godown fails. Meantime, Tom is unaccountably fascinated by Molly in her forced disguise and upsets her calculations by declaring his honest love for her. The spell is broken, aunt and niece resume their natural shapes, Jemima meets her just reward, and Molly bestows her hand upon her lover.

The burlesque abounds in local hits and some of the topical songs are very amusing. When Timothy Legge the Tout is descanting to the Hon. John Godown on the wealth possessed by Jemima, and the Taipan asks if she has got any Banks, he replies:—

Of course, and Whampoa Docks,
Kowloon Godowns, and fifty other stocks,

Canton Insurance Co., China Fires, Gas,
China Traders', China Sugars, Rope Works, and alas!
She's one or two Selangors, which she'd dearly like
to sell,
For stream-tin wouldn't stream enough the dividend
to swell.

Hongkong Hotel Co., Scrip both new and old;
She held some Luzon Sugars, too, but very wisely
sold;
She's Glass Works, and Ice Works, and Indo-China
Steam,
Of profits of the Dairy Farm she fairly took the
cream.

She sold all her Laundry shares, but had a narrow
squeak;
She's interest in the plucky Line that's climbing up the
Peak;
She's forty thousand Punjoms, and means to cut a
dash,
And now she seeks an outlet for her still superfluous
cash.

The Taipan's song is also fairly good. It is as follows:—

When first I came across the sea,
Oh green, very green was I,
I'd a hankering still for ginger-pop,
And was just about four feet high.
But now I'm a swell I have somehow
For ginger-pop lost the taste:
I get my pops from Heidsieck now,
And am four feet round the waist.
I'm the Boss of a Princely Hong; my ventures
never go wrong,
I made a big fortune in Manchester shirting,
The trade from its usual channel diverting;
The dollar may fall to a bob without hurting
The Boss of a Princely Hong.

I didn't know much at first, they said
So they made me a junior clerk,
Of a sort of general all round kind,
To keep me at work till dark.
I tiffined alone and frugally dined,
On Dairy Farm milk and biscuits,
And slept in the left-hand pigeon-hole
Where the cashier kept his whist-chits.
I'm the Boss, &c.

I was so cut out for a business man,
My salary daily riz,
And soon one day on the Cricket Ground,
I showed my lovely phiz.
I then developed a sort of taste
For a five o'clock p.m. tea,
For I found it pay in a business way,
To be in with the L. R. C.
I'm the Boss, &c.

To keep my name in the public eye
To try I then began,
And posed in the hall of the English Club
As a genuine all round man.
As Chairman of thirteen companies
They [illegible] my remarks with cheers;
I'm an amateur chief of the Fire Brigade,
An [illegible] of Volunteers.
I'm the Boss, &c.

In fact, I make a show where'er
I think that brass and bounce'll
Make their mark, and already I am
In the Legislative Council.
I harry their souls with questions there,
And have my hopes that soon
I'll join the British Peerage, as
The Marquis of Kowloon.
I'm the Boss, &c.

The best of the topical songs, however, in our opinion is the following, which is a skit on the system of acting appointments in the Civil Service:—

I went to look for the water first, and the beautiful
Conduit Road.
I feared the worst, and said it had burst, and the
reason quickly showed,
For the Surveyor-General had been sent, and the Dam
Constructor too.
To act as our Commissioners, at a big Colonial show.
Of governing ways, it's little I know, but a mystery
'tis to me,
And I'll eat my hand if I understand how a man can
possibly be
At once a Council Potentate
And a Resident Engineer,
And a Deputy Acting Magistrate,
Unless the system's queer.

We went to the Tytam Tunnel then, to see the work-
man bore,
And bore he did, though his only tool was a volume
of legal lore,
For there the Attorney-General stood with a cartridge
in his hand:
He was Acting Chief of the Public Works, d'ye see?
d'ye understand?

The Attorney-General's place was filled by an "act-
ing" man of sorts;
With Botanic and Afforestation terms he roused the
drooping Courts.
His flowers of rhetoric pleased the Bench, where sat
an "acting" man,
For the Chief was trying in vain to quench a fire in
Tai-ping-shan.

The Cattle Inspector ruled the roost at the Inland
Revenue Board;
While the Chief Collector tried in vain the Bill-rate
to record.
The Colonial Treasurer turned his mind to Time Balls
and Typhoons;
While the Coroner sent the mails away on Tuesday
afternoons.

There were "acting" men doing other men's work
at 14 posts or more;
They tried to do the best they could, and the best
could do no more;
It'll all come right in the end, I thought, meanwhile
you'll all agree,
With such a demand for "acting" men, there's a
chance for the A.D.C.

All the original airs in the burlesque were composed by Mr. J. Orange.

The burlesque was well performed throughout, and from first to last it was received with unstinted marks of approval. The staging was capital, the scenery being well painted, with a representation of Happy Valley in the background, and the dresses were exceedingly good. The best feature in the piece was the topical songs, all of which were received with strong marks of approbation by the audience, and energetically redemanded. The last song evoked quite a *furore* of applause, the hits being very telling. All the parts were well sustained, Mr. Whittall being again very effective in a lady's part. The following is the *dramatis personæ*:—

The Hon. John Godown, Taipan of the Firm of Leave Well, Alone & Co., Mr. C. H. Grace.
Tom Handicap, A Trainer of Ponies, Captain Rumsey, R.N.
Timothy Legge, A Tout, and general spy, Captain Bunbury.
Jemima Brown, An old woman, given to dabbling in the Black Art, Mr. J. Whittall.
Molly Brown, her niece, the Lily of the Valley, Mr. N. G. Mitchell-Innes.
Imps of Darkness, &c., &c.

The songs were well fitted with lively rattling airs, and their composer, Mr. Orange, accompanied them on the piano, and also played an overture.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held on the 11th inst. There were present:—

Hon. Sir GEORGE PHILLIPPO, Chief Justice.
Hon. F. STEWART, Acting Colonial Secretary.
Hon. E. J. ACKROYD, Acting Attorney-General.
Hon. J. M. PRICE, Surveyor-General.
Hon. H. G. THOMSETT, Harbour Master.
Hon. P. RYRIE.
Hon. WONG SHING.
Hon. A. P. MACEWEN.
Hon. J. BELL-IRVING.
Hon. C. P. CHATER.
Mr. A. SETH, Clerk of Councils.

In the absence of His Excellency the Acting Governor, owing to illness, the Chief Justice presided.

MINUTES.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

FINANCE.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table a financial minute by the Acting Governor recommending the Council to vote the sum of $816 to defray the expenses of collecting village taxes and squatters' fees by the Treasury. The minute stated that this service, which has hitherto been performed by the Registrar-General's department, is now to be carried on by the Treasury. The sum of $613 will be saved in the Registrar-General's department, and is therefore a transfer vote. The remaining $203 is the additional sum required.

The minute was referred to the Finance Committee.

THE CELEBRATION OF THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE.

The Hon. C. P. CHATER—Sir, the question I am about to ask, though neither of state importance, nor materially affecting the interests of the colony, touches upon a subject which at the present moment, is appealing to the loyal feelings of millions of Her Majesty's subjects all over the world. This year Her Most Gracious Majesty celebrates the 50th anniversary of her accession to the throne of that great empire, the Government of which she has so ably administered; and throughout her vast dominions rejoicings are to be the order of the day. And her subjects, of whatever race they may be, are anxious to celebrate the occasion in a manner befitting its exceptional and gratifying nature. This colony does not desire to be behindhand in anything—[Hon. P. RYRIE—hear, hear]—more especially in a matter of this sort; and assuming, as I do, sir, that your reply to my question will be in the affirmative, I will venture to take up the valuable time of this Council for a few moments, while I offer a suggestion as to the manner in which public funds may be applied in commemorating Her Majesty's jubilee year. The loyal feelings of this community are well known to every resident here, and most of us have already seen the hearty and eager manner in which, not only the foreign community, but also the native population, have come forward on previous occasions to celebrate the arrival of some member of the Royal Family upon these shores, and there is no doubt this occasion will again cause a display of that eagerness to loosen the purse strings for which I think this community, though but a very small one, is second to none in the world. But whatever the loyalty of private individuals may prompt them to do—whether they choose to give a ball on a grand scale or a banquet, whether to illuminate their houses or have a display of fireworks—I do not think the Government should spend the public funds in conventional cracker firing; this may well be left to the enthusiasm of private individuals. But I think, sir, the Government ought to do something of a more permanent character, something more lasting, indeed, something that should be a great deal more commemorative in its nature, and which will hereafter be of substantial benefit to the whole colony. In considering this question I have been puzzled, I confess, in arriving at some idea of a suitable form for this commemoration to assume. We have already recently considerably enlarged our Civil Hospital, and we have just recently built, and have almost ready for occupation, another hospital for the treatment of natives, and endowed by one of our residents, or rather materially assisted by him in its funds. We have the principal school in Hongkong rapidly blossoming into the Victoria College. But there is one thing which is very much needed, and of which a great deal has lately been heard, though it has not as yet taken any definite form. Our picturesque little valley of Wong Nei Cheong, so admirably adapted by nature for a park, is still untouched, so far as the central portion of it is concerned, though some two years ago Sir George Bowen turned the first sod of a proposed Park, and actually obtained a vote of $25,000 to carry out the excellent views of our able Surveyor-General. Beyond this, however, nothing has yet been done. Do you not think that this is a fitting opportunity for pushing on this much needed park, and of naming it, after her most Gracious Majesty, Victoria Park? I think we shall not only receive the sanction of Her Majesty to call the park after her name, but she will heartily approve of our idea of commemorating the jubilee year of her reign in a manner so beneficial to all the residents of her densely populated little colony of Hongkong. With these remarks I put my amended question; it reads thus:—As there is a general desire on the part of the Community of Hongkong to celebrate Her Majesty's Jubilee year in a fit and appropriate manner, I wish to ask whether the Government would co-operate in any movement made by the public for that purpose?

The PRESIDENT—In answer to the question of the hon. member I am requested by His Excellency the Acting Governor, who is unfortunately unavoidably prevented from being present with us to-day, to say that the Government is prepared to co-operate with the public of Hongkong in celebrating Her Majesty's Jubilee year in a manner befitting the occasion, and is ready to take into consideration, any definite proposal on the subject that may be made to it in accordance with the wishes of the community, and that His Excellency considers that any steps that may be taken with this object would no doubt be more fully appreciated by Her Most Gracious Majesty if they were the spontaneous act of the loyal community of Hongkong, and that for this reason the Government has not yet moved in the matter, although the subject has been under its consideration. This seems to be the view that has been taken of the matter by the Home Government, as I find that in Parliament a somewhat similar question was asked and a similar answer was given by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Mr. Lawson for Mr. Shirley is reported to have asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer—

> Whether it was the intention of the Government that the Jubilee year of Her Majesty's accession to the Throne should be appropriately celebrated in some national manner, so as to give pleasure and satisfaction to all loyal subjects; and, if so, whether he could state if the Government had considered the manner in which such celebration would most fitly take place; and whether their attention had been drawn to the recent suggestion of the Prince of Wales as to the Colonial Exhibition.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer replied as follows:—

> Of course, it would be a matter of great interest to Her Majesty's Government that the Jubilee year of Her Majesty's reign should be marked by appropriate celebrations, and, of course, the Government will consider the question as far as it lies in their power to do so; but all celebrations of this kind will probably possess greater value so far as they arise from the spontaneous action of the people.

ORDINANCE NO. 2 OF 1875.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the second reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance to remove doubts as to the application of Ordinance No. 2 of 1875. He said—Ordinance No. 2 of 1875 is an Ordinance passed for the better protection of women and the repression of certain abuses in relation to Chinese emigration. The title is "An Ordinance for the better protection of Chinese women and female children," and the preamble reads—"Whereas it is expedient to make better provision for the punishment of persons guilty of selling, purchasing, or decoying into the colony, or unlawfully detaining therein Chinese women and female children for the purpose of prostitution, and of decoying Chinese into or away from this colony for the purpose of emigration." The Ordinance itself omits the word "Chinese" and "any woman or female child" in all the acting parts, and, as I am informed, under this Ordinance persons who have been guilty of bringing into the colony other women than Chinese women have been punished. But a doubt has lately arisen, on account of the word "Chinese" occurring in the title and in the preamble, as to whether this Ordinance can be made to apply and extend to offences against other women than Chinese women. My hon. friend opposite (the Acting Colonial Secretary) will join me in saying it is very important all doubts on this point shall be removed as there is a rather extensive immigration in respect of Annamese women and even Japanese, and therefore it is necessary to remove all doubts on the subject. I therefore beg to move the second reading of this Ordinance, which will remove those doubts.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY—I second the motion, and I have great pleasure in doing so. It is exceedingly necessary we should remove all doubts on this subject. Before I came to the Colonial Secretary's office I found the traffic in Annamese girls was increasing rapidly, and the hardship these poor girls are subjected to is really very distressing. The French Consul was exceedingly good, and I know that frequently out of his own pocket he paid their passage back; but the traffic is increasing rapidly, and if something is not done to put a stop to it it will become a serious matter.

The Bill was read a second time.

THE ARMS BILL.

The Council went into Committee on the Bill entitled "An Ordinance to regulate the carrying and possession of arms."

Sections 6 and 7 were struck out on the motion of the ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL, who stated that the matters to which they referred would be dealt with in two Ordinances now under the consideration of the Law Revision Committee.

On section 8, which provides that all importers or dealers in arms shall register themselves and pay an annual licence fee of $10,

Hon. P. RYRIE moved that the amount of the licence fee be reduced from $10 to $5. He said he thought $10 was rather too high.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL said one of the reasons of the Bill was to get the names of all importers or dealers in arms, but it was not sought to make a revenue out of it, and if the Council thought $10 too much there would be no objection on the part of the Government to reduce the amount.

Hon. C. P. CHATER said he had much pleasure in seconding the motion that the fee be reduced to $5.

The motion was carried.

The PRESIDENT suggested that it would probably be more convenient to persons to register at the Registrar-General's office than to have to go up the hill to the Central Police Station.

The SURVEYOR-GENERAL—But as it is for police purposes, why not register at the Police Station?

The CHIEF JUSTICE said the Police could be furnished with a list of those who registered, and the parties concerned could register more conveniently in Queen's-road.

The SURVEYOR-GENERAL—It seems to me only a roundabout way of doing the same thing.

It was ordered that the clause stand over for further consideration.

On section 12, which provides that a Magistrate may issue warrants to search for arms,

Hon. WONG SHING said that all the Chinese pawnshops kept swords, not for sale but for protection. He wished to know if they would require a licence.

Hon. P. RYRIE—Most people keep arms. It is an old custom. I have a very ancient stand of arms myself.

The PRESIDENT—Everybody who keeps arms will have to take out a licence.

The SURVEYOR-GENERAL—This only applies to dealers, does it not?

The PRESIDENT—No; everybody in possession of arms will have to take out a licence.

Hon. A. P. MACEWEN—Would that apply to any one keeping a gun for shooting purposes, or a pistol? Would you have to take out a licence for that?

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—Yes; we tried to confine it to Chinese or Asiatics, but it was thought only just that it should apply to everybody.

The PRESIDENT—The Governor in Council will be inundated with applications for licences.

Hon. A. P. MACEWEN—Sir, I trust the Attorney-General will see his way to make some alteration in this clause with reference to private individuals who possess a gun or pistol. It is very unnecessary. It is very similar to the law in Manila, where you cannot take a firearm into the place without some registration, but I think in a British colony it is very unnecessary.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL—It is very necessary, sir, we should have an Ordinance regulating the carrying of arms. Only the night before last an armed band was seen on the Praya in possession of opium, and in the recent assizes we have had cases of persons armed with very dangerous weapons. If such an Ordinance is necessary it is very difficult indeed to make it apply to only one section. But I will take note of Mr. MacEwen's remark, and if it is possible to make any concession I will do so, but I may mention this has been already considered in Executive Council and referred home. We did not wish to make it general, but it has been found necessary to do so.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY said it was not as if a person would have to take out a licence annually.

The clause was ordered to stand over for further consideration.

Hon. P. RYRIE said he was perhaps out of order, but there was another Ordinance he thought should be attended to, and that was the Ordinance about shooting game. The Game Association having collapsed very miserably, who was going to pay $10 a year to shoot game on this island? He thought that Ordinance should not remain on our statute book.

The remaining clauses to the Bill were passed with technical amendments.

THE CATTLE AND MARKETS BILL.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL, on the order to go into committee on the Cattle and Markets Bill, said—The second reading of this Bill took place as far back as November last. The Sanitary Board requested consideration of it should be postponed, and they have lately submitted to the Government a revised Ordinance, which is a consolidation of the other Ordinance and also some new matter. There is not very much difference really, but the articles are arranged differently, and I think instead of amending the present Ordinance, it would perhaps be better to withdraw it altogether and bring in the Ordinance which has been submitted by the Sanitary Board.

The PRESIDENT—Do you propose to read it a first time to-day?

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL—No, it is not quite ready.

POSTPONEMENT OF BUSINESS.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved that the next two orders—to go into committee on the Triad Society Bill and the Bill for the protection of young girls—be adjourned. With reference to the latter he said he postponed last

week that he would have some amendments to propose, and he begged to lay them on the table to-day in order that they might be considered by the members of Council. He hoped to be able to go into committee on the Bill next week.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY said the report of the Committee which considered the Triad Society question was in the hands of the printers and would probably be in the hands of hon. members before this day week.

THE LIBEL BILL.

The Bill entitled "An Ordinance to amend the Law respecting defamatory words and libel" was read a third time and passed.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Council adjourned until Friday next at four o'clock.

THE BILL FOR THE BETTER PROTECTION OF YOUNG GIRLS.

At the meeting of the Legislative Council on the 11th instant the Acting Attorney-General laid on the table the amendments he intends to propose on the consideration in committee of the Bill for the better protection of young girls. The general effect of the amendments is to transfer to the Supreme Court or the Police Magistrates the punitive powers which in the Bill as introduced were conferred on the Registrar-General. In section 3 power was given to the Registrar-General to sentence a person disobeying a summons of the Registrar-General to appear before him on an inquiry with reference to a child in such person's possession to a fine of $500 or six months' imprisonment. It is now proposed that the offender shall be liable to punishment on conviction before a magistrate. A similar alteration is made in section 5 with respect to persons summoned as witnesses. Sections 2 and 4 have been struck out, and new sections to be numbered 4 and 5 have been introduced. The alterations effected are that the custodian may be represented by counsel or solicitor at the inquiry before the Registrar-General; that if the Registrar-General finds any offence has been committed against the provisions of No. 2 of 1875 he is to commit the offender for trial at the Supreme Court; and that if the Registrar-General finds that the child is intended to be used for improper purposes, he may, if the custodian consent to the matter being dealt with by the Registrar-General, make an order for the proper custody of the child, or require the custodian to give security. Section 5 provides for the case in which the custodian may decline to have the matter dealt with by the Registrar-General. In such case the custodian is to be summoned before a Police Magistrate, who, if he find that the child is being trained for a prostitute, etc., may make the order provided for in section 4. Sections 7 and 8 are struck out. The former provided for an appeal from the Registrar-General to a Judge in Chambers. This is rendered unnecessary by the transfer to the Magistrate of the punitive powers formerly given to the Registrar-General. Section 8 gave certain powers to the Registrar-General with regard to the estreating of bonds. In section 9 the words "promise or agreement" have been substituted for "bond or recognisance." Section 11 is also struck out. It provided that the rules to be made by the Governor in Council for the efficient working of the Ordinance might provide for the presence at all inquiries held by the Registrar-General of any two or more Chinese Justices of the Peace, and should also "regulate the mode of holding such inquiries and whether the same shall be held in public or in presence only of the parties interested."

THE PUNJOM AND SUNGHIE DUA SAMANTAN MINING COMPANY, LIMITED.

The first ordinary half-yearly meeting of the Punjom and Sunghie Dua Samantan Mining Co. was held at the Company's office on Tuesday afternoon, the 8th instant. There were present Hon. C. P. Chater (Chairman), Messrs. W. H. Ray, D. Gillies, E. L. Woodin, W. K. Hughes, C. D. Bottomley (Directors), E. George, S. J. Gower, J. B. Patell, P. B. Cama, J. M. dos Remedios, T. I. Rose, A. H. Jackson, M. P. Bezonjee, H. Wicking, Captain Bur[illegible], L. Flemming, J. H. Cox, A. F. Vaucher, J. B. Coughtrie, R. Lyall, G. C. Cox, J. F. [illegible] Roza, J. C. da Cunha, and A. O'D. Gourdin (Secretary).

The SECRETARY read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, you have had the report in your hands for the last few days, and with your permission I will take it as read. I have very little to add to what is embodied in the report. The telegram received from London a few days ago, and which some of the shareholders seem to have misunderstood, simply gave the result of an assay of ore from the cross-lode and confirms what Mr. Haughton told us. Mr. Stuart, our present manager, writes to say he is working very hard in fitting up the machinery and plant at the mines and he hopes in a very few weeks to be crushing some of the ore; and should the analysis of this turn out as satisfactory as is expected, he hopes to be able, and advises us, to either sub-let or sell some of the sections of our property. He says it is too vast a property to be worked by any one Company. If we should be successful in doing this, I have no doubt it would materially assist the Company. Mr. Scaife, one of the original holders of the estate, has been visiting the mines and is now on his way up from Singapore. On his arrival he will be able to give us some interesting information, information which will probably be very valuable in the interests of the Company. I have nothing further to add to the report, but I will be glad to answer any questions shareholders may wish to put concerning the working of the Company.

No questions being put, the CHAIRMAN moved that the report and accounts as submitted be passed.

Mr. GOWER seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN said that closed the business before the meeting.

THE HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

The following is the report to be presented at the eighteenth ordinary meeting of shareholders to be held on the 22nd inst. at 12.30 p.m.:—

The General Managers have pleasure in presenting to the shareholders the 18th annual report of the company.

The business of the year 1886 has proved very satisfactory; the accounts which are now finally closed show a profit of $262,200 after deducting from the revenue the sum of $42,890.34 carried to the reserve fund. With the approval of the Consulting Committee it has been decided to deal with the profits as follows:—

Bonus to shareholders on their contributions from 1st January to 31st December, 1885	$ 42,200
Dividend of $27.50 per share on 8,000 shares	220,000
	$262,200

With reference to investments on mortgages the General Managers and Consulting Committee are assured by the Surveyors' reports that the securities held by the company form an ample guarantee for the advances made.

CONSULTING COMMITTEE.

During the past year the Hon. C. P. Chater was invited to join the Committee and his election now requires confirmation. The other members, Messrs. Bottomley, MacEwen, Sassoon, and Davis retire, but being eligible offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

In the absence of Messrs. A. Coxon and G. E. Noble the accounts have been audited by Messrs. G. S. Coxon and H. M. Bevis. The General Managers now recommend the appointment of Messrs. A. Veitch and G. S. Coxon as auditors to the company.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
General Managers,
Hongkong Fire Insurance Company, Limited.

Hongkong, 9th February, 1887.

BALANCE SHEET, 31ST DECEMBER, 1886.

Dr.

To capital account,—			
Paid-up capital on 8,000 shares at $50 per share			$400,000.00
To accounts payable,—			
Sundry accounts unpaid			18,638.92
To uncollected dividend accounts,—			
Balance of this account			6,697.96
To reserve fund,—			
Amount reserved from the profits of 1869 to 1885			1,000,000.00
To working account, 1885,—			
Balance from last account		$326,372.89	
Add sums, premia, &c. since collected		5,288.31	
		$331,661.20	
Less,—For appropriation to reserve fund	$42,890.84		
Losses and other payments	21,070.36		
Remuneration to Consulting Committee and Auditors	5,500.00		
		69,461.20	
Net profit for 1885			262,200.00
To working account, 1886,—			
Balance of this account			328,567.46
			$2,016,104.35

Cr.

By Bank accounts, Government bonds, mortgages, &c.—		
Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, current account	$ 31,824.28	
Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, deposit account	280,000.00	
Loans under deed of mortgage, &c.,—		
In Hongkong	$821,500.00	
In Foochow	59,000.00	
In Amoy	20,000.00	
In Shanghai	507,261.24	
In Yokohama	9,500.00	
Invested in bonds,—		
Chinese Imperial Government loan, 1881	28,524.23	
Chinese Imperial Government loan, 1884	185,000.00	
Shares in the China Fire Insurance Co., Limited	157.00	
Cash in hands of General Managers	459.25	
		$1,943,226.00
By accounts receivable,—		
Balance of premium and interest to 31st December		63,448.35
By steam fire engine, No. 1,—		
Balance of this account		1,800.00
By steam fire engine, No. 2,—		
Balance of this account		4,500.00
By Yokohama steam fire engine,—		
Balance of this account		2,000.00
By Hankow fire engine,—		
Balance of this account		450.00
By Ningpo fire engine,—		
Balance of this account		80.00
By Amoy fire engine,—		
Balance of this account		200.00
By Swatow fire engine,—		
Balance of this account		400.00
		$2,016,104.35

WORKING ACCOUNT, 1886.

To premium account,—		
Balance of this account		$ 284,061.44
To interest account		
Balance of this account		135,789.64
To transfer fees account,—		
Fees collected during the year		504.00
To exchange account,—		
Balance of this account		575.85
		$ 420,930.93
By charges account,—		
Salaries of assistants	$ 8,000.00	
Salaries of surveyors in Hongkong and Shanghai	2,233.33	
Rent of offices	2,800.00	
Solicitors' retaining fees	283.33	
Stationery, printing, advertising, wages of shroffs, &c.	4,077.90	
		$17,394.56
By re-insurance account,—		
Paid for re-insurance during the year		28,422.81
By account of losses,—		
Paid for losses and claims		17,014.44
By fire brigade account,—		
For one-half share of brigade expenses at Hongkong, and the branches, viz.: Shanghai and Yokohama		4,351.87
By commission account,—		
For commission on Premia collected at Hongkong and the branches		25,179.79
By balance transferred as above		328,567.46
		$420,930.93

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

The following is the forty-third report of the Court of Directors to the ordinary half-yearly general meeting of shareholders to be held at the City Hall, Hongkong, on Saturday, the 26th inst., at noon:—

To the Proprietors of the Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation.

GENTLEMEN,—The Directors have now to submit to you a general statement of the affairs of the Bank, and balance sheet for the half-year ending 31st December last.

The net profits, including amount carried forward amount to $882,148.87, after paying charges and making provision for bad and doubtful debts, excepting those referred to below. This result the Directors believe will be regarded as satisfactory, considering the difficulties under which the Bank's business has been carried on owing to the violent fluctuations in Silver which have characterized the period under review.

It is with much regret that the Directors have to recommend the transfer of $500,000 to Contingent Account to provide for doubtful outstandings at one Agency of the Bank. Of this amount the Directors look upon $350,000 as bad, and although they hope to recover the balance either in whole or in part, they do not feel justified in considering it as a good asset. To make this provision, the Directors propose that $300,000 be taken from Profit and Loss Account, and $200,000 from Reserve for equalization of Dividends.

After making these transfers and deducting remuneration to Directors, there remains for appropriation $572,148.87, out of which the Directors recommend a Dividend of One Pound and Ten Shillings Sterling per Share, which will absorb $400,000.

The difference of Exchange between 4/6, the rate at which the Dividend is declared and 3/8½ the current rate of the day amounts to $146,835.44.

The balance $25,313.43 to be brought forward to credit of New Profit and Loss Account.

DIRECTORS.

Messrs. Dalrymple, Huntington, and the Honourable A. P. MacEwen retire in rotation, and being eligible for re-election offer themselves accordingly.

The Directors have invited Mr. W. H. F. Darby to fill a vacant seat on the Board, and the Honourable Wm. Keswick having resigned, his place has been supplied by the Honourable J. Bell-Irving. Both these appointments require the confirmation of the Shareholders.

Mr. M. Grote has been appointed Chairman for 1887, and Mr. C. D. Bottomley Vice-Chairman.

AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by the Honourable Phineas Ryrie and Mr. Fullarton Henderson.

M. GROTE,
Deputy Chairman.

Hongkong, 10th February, 1887.

ABSTRACT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, 31ST DECEMBER, 1886.

LIABILITIES.

Paid-up Capital		$ 7,500,000.00
Reserve fund		4,500,000.00
Reserve for equalization of dividends		200,000.00
Marine insurance account		250,000.00
Notes in circulation	$ 4,449,739.30	
Deposits	69,865,901.49	
		74,315,640.79
Bills payable (including drafts on London bankers and short sight drawings on London office against Bills receivable and Bullion shipments)		17,195,240.80
Profit and loss account		882,148.87
$		$104,843,030.46

ASSETS.

Cash		$ 8,970,093.00
Investments, viz. :—		
£100,000, 3 per cent. Consols		
£150,000, 3 per cent. Indian Government Sterling Loan		
The above lodged with the Bank of England as a special London reserve	$1,378,461.53	
Rs. 5,000,000, Indian 4 per cent. Govt. Loan	2,194,776.50	
		3,573,238.03
Bills discounted, loans and credits		36,807,229.00
Bills receivable		54,765,645.81
Bank premises		603,617.03
Dead stock		114,177.59
		$104,843,030.46

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT, 31ST DECEMBER, 1886.

Dr.

To amounts written off:—Remuneration to directors	$ 10,000.00
To dividend account:—£1.10 per share on 60,000 shares=£90,000 at 4/6	400,000.00
To dividend adjustment account:—Difference in exchange between 4/6, the rate at which the dividend is declared, and 3/8½, the current rate of the day	146,835.44
To contingent account:—Amount set aside to meet losses	500,000.00
To balance carried forward to next half-year	25,313.43
	$1,082,148.87

Cr.

By balance of undivided profits, 30th June, 1886	$111,760.34	
By amount of net profits for the six months ending 31st December, 1886, after deducting all expenses and interest paid and due	770,388.53	
		$882,148.87
By amount transferred from reserve for equalization of dividends		200,000.00
		$1,082,148.87

RESERVE FUND.

To balance on 31st December, 1886	$4,500,000.00
By balance on 30th June, 1886	$4,500,000.00

RESERVE FOR EQUALIZATION OF DIVIDENDS.

To amount transferred to profit and loss account	$200,000.00
By balance on 30th June, 1886	$200,000.00

THE HONGKONG PUBLIC SCHOOL.

The following is the report for 1886:—

The Committee of the Public School submit their seventh annual report and statement of accounts. In doing so they feel able to assure the subscribers that the prospects and condition of the school afford more occasion for encouragement than has ever been the case before.

The Committee feel that in Mr. Bateman they have secured a thoroughly able, conscientious, and hard-working head-master, whose value parents in the colony have not been slow to recognise. The attendance at the school has nearly doubled during the year under report, having increased from 37 to 60, and the Committee are now somewhat embarrassed, not, as in former years, by the small number of pupils for whom they have to provide an education, but by its sudden and rather unexpected increase. It has become necessary to rent accommodation for the head-master outside of St. Paul's College, and this of course seriously adds to the working expenses.

Through the enterprise and perseverance of Mr. Bateman the colony has been brought into relation with the Syndicate for the Cambridge local examinations, and the first public examination under the authority of that body was held in December. The Public School presented eleven candidates (juniors). The result will not be known for some months, and though the Committee do not expect any very marked success this time, owing to the newness of the scheme and the short time for preparation, it cannot be doubted that these examinations will give a great impetus to education, not only in the Public School, but also throughout the colony. It is hoped to arrange with the Cambridge Syndicate for an annual examination of the Public School each midsummer.

A candidate was presented for the Government scholarship, for which there were two competitors. Both, however, failed to obtain the number of marks necessary for the winning of this valuable prize.

The most trying part of the somewhat onerous duties annually undertaken by the Committee yet remains to be done. It is necessary again to appeal to the community for subscriptions. There is no hope that the school will be self-supporting for at least ten years to come, but that, with care and perseverance, it will eventually become so there can be no reasonable doubt. The endowment fund is steadily growing, and now amounts to $8,864. The Committee feel that nobody interested in the work of education would now seriously propose to abandon the school. Believing that few objects are more important than that of providing a satisfactory education for the lads who are so rapidly growing up, many of them to be our future citizens, they unhesitatingly ask, as in previous years, for continued public support.

SUPREME COURT.

8th February.

IN APPEAL.

BEFORE THE FULL COURT.

CHIU SHAN v. JOHN MATHIESON.

Mr. Francis, Q.C., instructed by Mr. Ewens, for the appellant; the Acting Attorney-General (Hon. E. J. Ackroyd), instructed by the Crown Solicitor (Mr. A. B. Johnson), for the respondent.

This was an appeal case against a decision by Mr. Mitchell-Innes, as Acting Police Magistrate, in a prosecution by Inspector Mathieson against the defendant on a charge of keeping a tsze fa lottery agency at No. 1, Taipingshan-street. The prisoner was sentenced to pay a fine of $100, or be committed to prison, and in addition to be publicly exposed in the stocks for six hours. Mr. Francis contended first that on the merits the conviction was against the weight of evidence; secondly, that it was bad technically inasmuch as the address it was alleged the defendant was said to have sold the tickets at was not a "place" within the meaning of the Ordinance; and, thirdly, that the sentence was illegal, the magistrate not having power to order exposure in the stocks for such an offence. Judgment was reserved at the time, and was now delivered as follows by Mr. Justice Russell:—

The appellant was convicted in October for unlawfully keeping a lottery agency in this Colony, and fined in the sum of $200 and ordered to be exposed in stocks for six hours. The appellant, being dissatisfied with the determination of the Magistrate, gave notice of appeal, and the matter now comes here in a case stated in pursuance of Ordinance 4, of 1858. Mr. Francis, Q.C., who appeared on behalf of the appellant, argued that the conviction was not warranted by the evidence, and that the punishment of the stocks was *ultra vires*. To the case stated the Magistrate appended the depositions. There is abundant evidence in our opinion to warrant the Magistrate in holding that the defendant sold Tsz Fa lottery tickets over and over again at No. 1, Tai Ping Shan Street, if he believed it. The evidence of the druggist, who lives at No. 1, Tai Ping Shan, had to be valued by the magistrate, as against the evidence of 5 or 6 other witnesses who appeared for the prosecution. But it was argued at considerable length that there was no "keeping of an agency or place," and Galloway v. Maries, L.R. 8 Q.B. 275; Bows v. Fenwick, L.R. 9 C.P. 339; and Dugget v. Catterus 19 C.B. N.S. 765, were referred to; and the present case, it was submitted, by the learned counsel, came within the principle laid down in Dugget v. Catterus—which decided that the habitual use of a spot below a tree in Hyde-park was not the using of a place within the meaning of 16 and 17 Vic. C. 119. It was submitted that the keeping of an office, agency or place, was the same thing, and in the present case, if the evidence was to be believed, the appellant was localised well enough, for he sold and was known to sell tickets at 1, Tai Ping Shan Street. Had the evidence and finding been that the sale was on the public street the principle of Dugget and Catterus would have applied, but if it is believed that the sales took place at all, then the evidence warrants the finding that the sale was in the house No. 1, Tai Ping Shan Street. The question as to the punishment of the stocks is important, and might become of more importance in other cases. Mr. Francis contended that the legislature intended by Sec. X. of 16 of 1875 to limit the application of the punishment of the stocks to offences then known to the law, and that such punishment could not apply to future legislation. In the present case the fine for gambling was inflicted in pursuance of Ord. 9 of 1876—which only provided a fine, and in default imprisonment. In support of this contention he cited the 8th Section of 16 of 1875, which states that "whenever any male offender whose age appears to the Magistrate not to exceed 16 years is convicted under the powers herein conferred of larceny, or of any offence which now or at any time hereafter is deemed and declared to be simple larceny or punishable as simple larceny the convicting magistrate may sentence him to be once or twice privately whipped . . . . in lieu of or in addition to any other punishment to which such offender is liable." If this section is carefully examined it will be seen that its scope is whipping boys for one particular class of offence—viz., larceny—or offences which may hereafter be declared to be larceny. But Sec. X. is very wide and declares that any offender under this or any other Ordinance may have the punishment of stocks added to any other penalty. It is so wide indeed that it includes females and all nationalities and it obviously intended to give the Magistrate a wide discretionary power. The words are plain and clear, and we are bound to regard them as giving power to the Magistrate in every case where there is an offender convicted. Maxwell, in the interpretation of Statutes, page 3, states that it is the business of the Interpreter to give effect to the plain words of the Legislature. "It matters not what the consequences may be whereby the use of clear and unequivocal language capable of only one meaning anything is enacted by the legislature it must be enforced although it may be absurd or mischievous." "If the words go beyond what was the intention, effect must nevertheless be given to them" "However unjust, arbitrary or inconvenient the intention may be, it must receive its full effect; when once the intention is plain, it is not the province of a Court to scan its wisdom or its policy. Its duty is not to make the law reasonable but to expound it as it stands according to the plain sense of the words." We cite the above remarks from Maxwell's works because we think that it is not quite reasonable to give a power of imprisonment—and of ignominious imprisonment as exposure in the stocks is—where an offender by a specific enactment is only punishable with a fine—and recent legislation in regard to Post Office matters, will afford an illustration of what we mean. It was proposed to give a magistrate a power of imprisoning a captain of a ship or a consignee for certain offences against the Post Office laws, but it was considered that the matter could be properly dealt with by a fine. Surely the legislature could not intend that notwithstanding this change the magistrate should be able to give the punishment of the stocks for the breach of Post Office law. The magistrate may be trusted, no doubt to abstain from anything so absurd, but the law is there, and if it is not to be altered we think the magistrate would use a wise discretion in abstaining from ordering stocks in all cases where offenders have the option of paying fines, and where they have only to be imprisoned in default of goods and chattels.

The Chief Justice said the appeal would thus be dismissed on the understanding that the punishment of exposure in the stocks was not enforced.

The Acting Attorney-General applied for costs.

Mr. Francis submitted that costs should not be granted as he thought their Lordships would hold the appellant was quite justified in coming to the court on the matter of punishment.

The Chief Justice coincided.

CHEUNG YUK TING AND CHEUNG SHUI SHAN v. HO YUK TONG.

Mr. Mackean, instructed by Messrs. Wotton and Deacon, for the plaintiffs; Mr. Francis, Q.C., instructed by Messrs. Caldwell and Wilkinson, for the defendant.

This was an appeal against the ruling of the Registrar of the Court in a matter referred to him to ascertain what accounts had been received in respect of a mortgage entered into by the defendant and others. The question in dispute was as to the liability of the defendant in connection with a mortgage. The defendant's contention was that when he was made a party it was stipulated and agreed that his liability was to be limited to the amount of his interest in the property, while the plaintiff claimed that there was no such limit to his liability. There was no statement of any such limit on the deed, and the question was whether there was no agreement between the parties at the time the deed was signed. The agreement was drawn up for all parties by Mr. A. P. Stokes, who said it embodied all the instructions he received. Mr. Stokes was under the impression that his interpreter informed him there was some difficulty about Ho Yuk Tong desiring to limit his liability to the amount of his interest in the property. The parties themselves, however, gave no instructions to the effect. Judgment was reserved at the time.

The Chief Justice now delivered the decision of the court. He said the matter had not been adjourned through any serious doubts the court had as to the ruling of the Registrar, but because Mr. Francis specially desired the point to be considered. The authorities were clear that parole testimony could not alter the effect of documentary evidence save fraud or a mistake was alleged. In this case the mortgage deed contained no mention of any such limitation of liability, although it seemed that Ho Yuk Tong had stated that he would not become a party unless his liability were so limited. Under the circumstances the court must decide that Ho Yuk Tong must pay the balance due on the mortgage, but as interest had not been enforced the matter would have to be referred back to the Registrar upon that point.

Mr. Mackean said he would apply for costs, but if the parties agreed among themselves not to press for interest it would not be necessary to refer the matter again to the Registrar.

His Lordship said it would not, and perhaps, under the circumstances, it would be a generous thing if the plaintiffs agreed to do this.

TRIAL TRIP OF THE STEAMER "DAFILA."

On the 10th inst. the British steamer *Dafila* went on a trial trip after extensive repairs and alterations. It may be remembered that seven or eight months ago this vessel, while on a voyage from Bangkok to Hongkong, ran short of coal, and her then master, Capt. Mooney, made for Hoihow for fuel. In doing so, not having a chart of the Hainan Straits, the steamer got aground and was on the sands several days before she was got off by H. M. S. *Albatross*. After some temporary repairs at Hoihow, the vessel was able to proceed to this port, where she was arrested by the Supreme Court in consequence of some salvage claims brought against her. She was sold in her damaged condition to Mr. Kaw Hong Take, of the Ban Ho firm, for $15,000 in the damaged condition in which she arrived. Mr. Kaw Hong Take put the vessel in the hands of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, who contracted to repair all the injuries she had sustained, and do a good deal of fresh work, making her in every respect a sound and well found boat, for $26,000. A great deal of work had to be done to repair damage. The vessel had bumped considerably on the sands, she leaked, and was strained all over her bottom, part of which had been so lifted as to raise the boiler. In addition to this almost every scrap of woodwork about her had been torn out for fuel to make steam, so that she was but little more than a shell of a vessel. Mr. Kaw Hong Take determined to have a good job made of her; he intended her for the Straits trade, and for this purpose included in his contract an entirely new 'tween deck to accommodate the numerous Chinese passengers who pass between China and the Straits Settlements. The old saloon, which was below, he had removed entirely, and replaced by another in a large deckhouse aft, which also contains the cabins for passengers, captain's cabin, pantry, bath room, &c. The bridge was improved, and berths built under it for officers, engineers, and seamen. The work has now been completed, and the vessel is now a better one in every respect than she has ever been before. The deck beams have been replaced by new iron girders, or strengthened, new hatches have been made, and she has been rendered thoroughly tight and strong. The saloon is neat and comfortable. The long table which passes from one side to the other is fitted with revolving chairs; there are plush covered settees on the sides, and a handsome mahogany sideboard surmounted by a mirror. The cabins are comfortable and well furnished, and excellent accommodation is provided for the captain and officers. A great deal has been done to the engines, which needed much repairing, and the boiler which she now has is nearly new. New scuttles have been made in the sides of the vessel to light and ventilate the 'tween decks, which will afford very comfortable accommodation for Chinese passengers. In all respects the ship has been got into thoroughly good working order, and her engines yesterday worked with much smoothness.

At about 12.30 on the 10th inst. the vessel left her buoy off the Canton wharf, having on board the owner, Mr. Kaw Hong Take, Mr. D. Gillies, (Secretary, Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co.) Capt. E. Burnie (Lloyd's Surveyor), Mr. Ho Amei, and a few other friends, and favoured by delightful weather, had a very pleasant trip for a short distance to the south of the island and back. An excellent tiffin was provided on board.

Mr. GILLIES proposed success to the ship at the conclusion of the tiffin, the toast being drunk in champagne.

Mr. HO AMEI proposed the health of Mr. Kaw Hong Take, and in doing so alluded to his long friendship with that gentleman, and the great results which had been achieved by the latter's commercial talents. He hoped that soon, instead of buying a second-hand ship and giving it to the Dock Company to repair, Mr. Kaw Hong Take would encourage the industries of the colony by giving that company the order for a new vessel.

Mr. KAW HONG TAKE suitably responded, and expressed a hope that the business on which the vessel was to be engaged would so prosper that he should be able to do as Mr. Ho Amei had suggested.

The steamer soon after arrived at her anchorage, and the passengers left her shortly before three o'clock p.m.

The *Dafila* is a schooner rigged vessel of 552 tons net register. Her engines are 90 horse power nominal, and as she has very fine lines, they are capable of propelling her at a speed of about ten knots. With the exception of a half topgallant forecastle, she is flush decked, with a fine lower bridge and flying bridge above. Under the bridge are two good alleyways, galley, mess room, berths, engine room, &c., while in the forecastle are other quarters. The front of the bridge structures is of iron, and very strong, the 'tween decks being entered just forward of the bridge by an iron covered gangway. There is also a strong iron breakwater backing the forecastle, which must do a good deal to keep the vessel dry. There are four watertight bulkheads which pass from the ship's bottom to the upper deck.

The *Dafila* will commence running in a few days, and is now under the command of Capt. J. Watt, late of the Canton river steamer *Pasig*.

THE AMERICAN SCHOONER "WAGRIEN" ASHORE.

News was received by the steamer *Fokien*, which arrived here on the 10th inst. from Tamsui and Amoy, of the stranding of the American schooner *Wagrien* on the bar at Tamsui on the 1st instant. The *Wagrien* was on a voyage from Foochow to Tamsui with a cargo of telegraph poles for the Chinese Government, and upon arriving at her destination she had the misfortune to run upon the bar on the 1st instant during a strong N.E. monsoon, the weather being dark and misty. She remained in her dangerous position until the arrival of the Douglas Steamship Company's steamer *Fokien* without making any progress towards getting off, but no assistance was obtained from the *Fokien* for that purpose. When the latter vessel left Tamsui, on the 8th instant, the *Wagrien* was making a good deal of water, but her position was not considered to be such as to warrant the abandonment of all hope of saving her. Her cargo of poles was being thrown overboard as speedily as possible and washed ashore. The *Wagrien* is a vessel of 180 tons, and commanded by Captain Vincent, who is well known on the Coast and at this port.

THE NEW OPIUM REGULATIONS.

The following is a translation published by the *N.-C. Daily News* of a Memorial to the Throne on the subject of the regulations necessary to the working of the Additional Article of the Chefoo Convention;—

Memorial upon the subject of levying at one time the duty and the *lekin* on opium. It is proposed to direct that the Superintendents and Commissioners at each port co-operate in arranging this business, so as to define where responsibility lies and to avoid further delay. His Majesty's gracious pleasure is respectfully invoked.

With reference to the levy at one and the same time of the duty and *lekin* charges on opium, between the date of the Chefoo Convention, when the subject was broached, to the special clause agreed upon by Tsêng Chi-tsê, the various plans suggested have been successively submitted to Their Majesties from time to time.

In the 2nd moon of last year the Board of Revenue with the Tsung-li Yamen proposed that each Province should put the project into force independently, and that as a total on each chest of opium there should be levied, in addition to the Tls. 30 of duty, a further charge of Tls. 86 for *lekin*, uniformity being required at all the ports.

The idea was, that the *lekin* being an internal charge, it was to be expected that the amount collected would increase; but after a year's trial it has been found that the collection reported by each Provincial Government has not improved. Moreover, considering the number of chests imported, the amount smuggled has increased. For this reason the Tsung-li Yamen, in the first moon of the present year, proposed that His Majesty should despatch Shao Yu-lien to Hongkong in company with the Inspector-General of Customs, Sir Robert Hart, to arrange a course of action with the British authorities. Messages have been from time to time telegraphed to the Yamên, and copies of them respectfully submitted through the Cabinet Council to His Majesty.

Sir Robert Hart and Shao Yu-lien have now one after the other returned to Peking, and the Yamen have once more questioned them repeatedly upon the subject.

In Sir Robert Hart's opinion much the more regular course would be for each port in China to devise means for improving the collection on its own account, but his proposed rules require that the management be in the hands of the Commissioner at each port. On the other hand Shao Yu-lien thinks that when opium enters China, as the Maritime Customs is of course the common centre, the opium should be put into bond when it enters a port and only given over to the merchants for conveyance elsewhere after the duty and the *lekin* shall have been both paid, on the same principle as in the conveyance of salt, on which the dues are collected at the depôt of production.

The Memorialists have carefully thought the matter over, and are of opinion that, unless smuggling is put a stop to, there can be no real improvement expected in the duty and *lekin*, nor can there be any really effective check kept upon smugglers without the co-operation of the Superintendents and the Commissioners of Customs; for opium is an article which may be in either wholesale or retail quantities, and being of an unweighty nature is very easily secreted, and thus very easily smuggled. The only course then, is to draw up fresh and distinct regulations, prescribing a definite date for their coming into force, and directing each port to begin at the same time. According to the Convention the double levy on each chest should not exceed Tls. 110, and on entry into port the opium should, according to the new rules, be kept in bond in warehouses or hulks duly secured under the Maritime Customs' authority, and only removed, repacked, and conveyed under passes duly obtained into the interior after payment of the Tls. 30 duty and Tls. 80 *lekin*. If the original packing shall not have been altered when the merchandise goes into the interior, and if the Maritime Customs' seal on each ball, number, weight, &c., shall not have been scraped, injured or unduly changed, then there will be no need to pay any further duty or *lekin*.

The Memorialists are of opinion that if this is at once commenced in accordance with the Convention, and if the plan can only be properly carried out, the advantages will be four.

The duty of New Customs will be to store the opium in bond, and the Commissioner will receive and pay out the money as occasion requires, both sides exercising a supervision, and every penny thus finding its way into the public chest. This is the first advantage to the State.

When the merchandise reaches Chinese hands the duty and *lekin* having been already cleared off, no further examination or charge will be necessary *en rout* and it will be free to go or come in any direction. This is the second advantage to the merchants.

Ill-disposed Chinese traders are in the habit of setting up sham foreign hongs with a view to smuggling, frequent disputes being the result. Now, since the merchandise will have paid both its charges previous to leaving the warehouse, knavish traders will have no scope for their devices, and correspondence of all sorts may be simplified and saved. This is the third advantage to the officials.

When the new rules come into force the opium barriers can all be abolished, and there being no runners on the roads and in the villages to harass the people, this will be the fourth advantage to the people.

However, as the treaty ports are numerous, a large staff will be required, besides which there is the purchasing of guard-boats, increasing the staff of tidewaiters, &c., involving considerable expense.

The Memorandum now submitted by Sir Robert Hart shows that at first the expense will be considerable, but that it will decrease year by year. Wherever in this world there is gain, there too are the seeds of corruption. The Memorialists will not venture to say that if the Superintendents and Commissioners co-operate there will be no abuses, but as over ten years have passed since this matter was settled by the Convention, and innumerable alternatives have suggested themselves since then, it is better to have it put in force at once and keep our own hand on the benefits and the power of action alike than to keep on hesitating and procrastinating and wasting vast sums of money.

The different Provincial and Customs authorities have so far represented that they do not see their way; and to farm out the business by tender only seems to result in squandering money; whilst the Commissioners have given no assistance beyond collecting the regular duty, in such wise that no good results have followed. When the new rules shall have been definitely drawn up and our minds made up to put the plan into execution, the Superintendents of Customs are deeply beholden for his Majesty's favour, and will naturally be expected to put forth their most loyal efforts and to exercise an honest supervision. The Commissioners all owe their emoluments to China, and they too must break with all biased feeling and contribute to make a success of it.

Taking the annual import for instance at 70,000 chests, the amount of duty and *lekin* collected must necessarily be in advance of what it has hitherto been. For these reasons, the Memorialists, after repeated consideration, have come to the conclusion that this is the only possible plan of action. As to the detailed rules and everything of that nature, the Superintendents of Customs will be again instructed to thoroughly discuss and consider them with the Commissioners of Customs. The main point is to provide liberal means for carrying the thing out so that the steps taken may be of a complete nature. And the responsibilities must be strictly defined so that the whole collection may be actually realised. Should it happen that, after a trial, the course of action be found to present slight difficulties, these can be arranged as they occur and means found to add to or correct as the case may be.

Should His Majesty be pleased to accord his consent, the Tsung-li Yamen will proceed at once to request the Two Superintendents of Trade for the Northern and Southern Ports to give the necessary instructions to Sir Robert Hart for transmission to the Commissioners. They would propose as the beginning, from which to commence operations, the first moon of next year.

Local opium is a product of China, and for that reason on a different footing with foreign produce. The Memorialists would beg His Majesty to direct the different Provincial Viceroys and Governors to take into consideration the peculiar circumstances of each place, and to report exactly how far an extra duty can be imposed there. When their replies shall have been received the Board of Revenue in conjunction with the Yamên, will consider the question.

They have now the honour to set forth in their joint names the above project of collecting at one and the same time the duty and the *lekin* on foreign opium, and the proposal to make the Superintendents and Commissioners co-operate in putting the scheme in motion.

The draft of this Memorial has been prepared by the Yamen, and, with this further statement, the Board and the Yamen most respectfully present it to Her Imperial Majesty the Empress Regent and His Majesty the Emperor.

Rescript received 3rd January 1887 "As advised."

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

THE ADMINISTRATION OF BRITISH JUSTICE IN SIAM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—I have to thank you for your kindness in giving a place to my letter in your impression of the 17th January, and for the courtesy with which, in your leading article of the same date, you combated the view I felt myself compelled to take of our Minister's conduct.

For the honour of the British magistracy, I wish I could admit the correctness of your contention that from no point of view does the British Minister's proceeding appear to bear the sinister character placed on it by myself. But to admit this it would be necessary to ignore the following facts.

1.—Mr. Satow, in refusing permission to Mr. Gould to make the "communication" to Mr. Michell in writing (for we are fully warranted in assuming that the Consul acted only by authority of his chief) was clearly guilty of unnecessarily delaying the course of justice; and, moreover, by so refusing, he has fairly laid himself open to the suspicion of having been fully aware that his "communication" was so flagrantly unjust that he dared not permit it to be made in black on white.

2.—Article II. of the Supplementary Treaty between Great Britain and Siam, known as the Parkes' Agreement, contains this clause:—"All civil cases in which both parties are British subjects or in which the defendant is a British subject shall be heard and determined by the British Consul alone."

3.—Article V. of the Treaty between Great Britain and Siam expressly stipulates that all British subjects are to be registered; and Section 29 of the Order in Council of 28th July, 1856, confirmed by Act of Parliament in August, 1857, explicitly states that if a British subject refuses or neglects to register himself or to excuse such his refusal or neglect to the satisfaction of the Consular officer, he shall cease to be entitled to recognition or protection as a British subject in any suits or difficulties whatsoever in which he may be involved in the dominions of the Kings of Siam. As the clause of the Parkes' Agreement quoted above clearly imposes on the British Consular officer the obligation to hear and determine all cases in which the defendant is a British subject; and as it is equally clear that he is powerless to hear and determine any case in which the defendant is not entitled to recognition as a British subject, it is self-evident that the Englishman resident in Siam who refuses to register himself thereby ceases to be under British jurisdiction, and necessarily becomes a subject of the Sovereign in whose territory he resides.

Unless, therefore, the extremely improbable supposition be entertained that Mr. Satow is culpably ignorant of these stipulations of the Treaty and Order in Council from which he derives his authority, error of judgment cannot be pleaded on his behalf for having denied justice to Mr. Michell in the case referred to, except under a fantastic condition which he had no legal right to impose, and which could only have been complied with at the cost of an impertinence to the Foreign Minister of Siam.

Trusting to your well known indulgence and love of justice for the publication of this letter.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

P. GOWAN.

Bangkok, 28th January, 1887.

CONSULAR JUSTICE IN SIAM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—Your leading article of 17th January on this subject, which has been read with much interest here, contains some inaccuracies of detail which I am sure you will not wish to remain uncorrected.

You say "That Mr. Michell is a British subject is clear from the fact that he was the gentleman who called the meeting to protest against the registration system—a matter with which he could have had no concern if he were a Siamese subject." I hope you will allow me to point out that this is not quite correct. I had in fact a great concern in this matter, inasmuch as I had been requested by clients of high reputation to advise the meeting on a question of constitutional law upon which no other person in Bangkok had any established qualification to advise. A Siamese lawyer who invites Englishmen to hear his opinion upon English law does not surely thereby become an Englishman, any more than a city man who chooses to discourse to country men about agricultural affairs thereby becomes a farmer. It may be true that "he who drives fat oxen should himself be fat"; but I never heard that he need out-do Nebuchadnezzar and become an ox.

Then you say that "it seems only reasonable to infer that the Court has the power, in any case, of calling for a statement from the plaintiff as to whether he sues as a British subject or as a foreigner." Upon this I should like to make two very brief observations. First, the *primâ facie* reasonableness of any such view is entirely destroyed by the words of the treaty defining the Court's duties which declare that "*All* actions in which both parties are British subjects, or in which the defendant is a British subject, *shall be* heard and determined by the Consul alone." Whether, therefore, I was treated as the one or as the other, the Court was equally bound to hear the case. Secondly, "a statement from the plaintiff" was not at all what the Consul demanded. He could have had that at any moment, if he wished. What he demanded was a letter from H.R.H. the Siamese Minister for Foreign Affairs, which he knew he had no right to stipulate for, and which he knew the plaintiff had no right to apply for.

Perhaps I may be allowed to add one very important point, which is not alluded to in your article. This is the fact that Mr. Satow had declared expressly that in the case in question he "intended to treat me as a Siamese subject." This being so, it was not open to Mr. Satow to allege any doubt as to the nationality of the plaintiff, nor to pretend that any further information was needed.

The whole case is extremely simple. Hitherto actions against British subjects in Siam have invariably been entertained at the British Consulate (in accordance with the Treaty), whether the plaintiff was of British or Siamese nationality. This practice is continuously followed until one day a plaintiff presents himself who has unwittingly incurred the displeasure of Mr. Satow by presuming to give his humble opinion upon a disputed point of Constitutional law. Then for the first time the line is adopted of refusing to entertain the suit unless the plaintiff makes an impertinent and wholly unnecessary request to the Siamese Minister for Foreign Affairs.

I do not pretend to know what were Mr. Satow's motives in taking this very exceptional course. But in cases like this people are apt to adopt the most natural and obvious explanation of what occurs. If that natural and obvious explanation is in this instance not the correct one, it would certainly have been as well for Mr. Satow to state publicly what other motive he could have had.

As to the illegality of the refusal to entertain this suit I have never heard any doubt expressed; and the letter (printed in the *Bangkok Times* of 15th January, nearly a fortnight ago), in which I pointed it out, has remained without any sort of reply. But I am dealing now with the remarks made in your leading article as to the justification which can be found by an indulgent critic for Mr. Satow in taking this very unprecedented step. I wish to make it clear that, in taking it, the Minister could not possibly pretend either that my nationality was doubtful, or that the obligation imposed upon him by the Treaty is in any way questionable. If any other justification can be found, I shall be most glad to hear it. But it has not yet been heard of.—Your obedient servant,

E. B. MICHELL,
Law Agent.

Bangkok, 28th January, 1887.

THE ANGLO-CHINESE CALENDARS

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS"

SIR,—My attention has been called to the *Daily Press* of Wednesday, the 9th inst., where, in your otherwise favourable remarks upon the "Hongkong Almanack for 1887," you state that in the Anglo-Chinese calendar I have fallen into the error which has been made by several other compilers of giving 29 days to the second moon and 30 days to the third, whereas the former ought to have 30 and the latter 29. To say that I have fallen into an error, although in company with others, is to a certain extent a reflection upon me, and I shall therefore be obliged by your allowing me to shew that I have not fallen into an error as stated.

The following table shows the time of the happening of the third new Moon of the current Chinese year in the local mean time of the places named:—

	March.	h.	m.	
London (Greenwich)	24th	4	10	p.m.
Paris	24th	4	19	,,
Berlin	24th	5	3	,,
St. Petersburg	24th	6	12	,,
Moscow	24th	6	40	,,
Bombay	24th	9	1	,,
Calcutta	24th	10	3	,,
Singapore	24th	11	4	,,
Canton	24th	11	42	,,
Hongkong	24th	11	46	,,
Peking	24th	11	55	,,
Tientsin	24th	11	58	,,
Shanghai	25th	0	15	a.m.

The first day of every Chinese month falls on the day of new moon, the Chinese month being strictly associated with the commencement and duration of the moon, the Chinese name and character for month being the same as for moon, and the days of the Chinese month mean simply that the moon is so many days old. Now, Sir, how is the day of new moon, the first day of the month, fixed in the Chinese calendar, especially the first day of the third moon of the present year? Until this question is satisfactorily answered there can be no evidence of error.

I have read through the writings of Williams, Douglas, and others upon the Chinese calendar, and although they are exhaustive upon the cycle and anticycle, the watches of the night and day, they are all silent upon the means by which the first day of the Chinese month is established.

In Mayers, Dennys and King's "Treaty Ports" (1867), it is recorded that the Observatory at Peking was built by Kanghi and furnished with instruments constructed under the direction of Ricci and other Roman Catholic Missionaries, and that astronomical affairs in general and the care of the Observatory in particular is the function of a Yamen called the Kin-t'in Ki'en, presided over by a prince assisted by a Kien-chêng and various other officials amounting in the aggregate to about one hundred; and further, that "it is currently reported, however, that their united wisdom could do nothing towards making the necessary calculations in the event of those left by the Jesuit Missionaries being lost or becoming, from the lapse of time, useless." Williams, in his "Middle Kingdom," 4th Ed. vol. II. p. 153, complains that the Europeans who were employed for many years in compiling the calendar were not allowed to interfere in the astrological part. It would appear, therefore, that the commencements of the months were corrected, and established for the future, by the Roman Catholic missionaries, and an examination of the system of the Chinese Calendar, with the intercalary months, shows pretty clearly that this was the case, because the system is exactly the same as that adopted by the Western Churches in ascertaining the day of the paschal full moon, a system, in short, of lunar cycles (or golden numbers) and epacts, with which the Catholic missionaries must have been well acquainted.

The solar year is 11 days longer than the lunar year, and the epact of the year is a term expressing the excess of time in the solar above the lunar year.

The commencement of the lunar cycle is when the first day of the year is also the day of new moon, and the epact is called 0. The second year of the lunar cycle commences 11 days previous to the solar year (that is, the moon would be 11 days old on the 1st January) and the epact is called 11. The third year the epact is twice 11=22; the fourth year 3 and 11=33; but, (30 having to be deducted for one month completed), the true epact is called 3, and so on to the end of the cycle.

Applying this to the Chinese calendar it will be found to answer exactly and that every ordinary year, or month, commences 11 days earlier than the year, or the same month of the year, preceding, until the limit backward is reached when the intercalary month is inserted to bring the year forward according to the term of the epact. For instance, the 3rd Chinese moon last year indisputably commenced on the 4th April and, as indisputably, it was new moon that day; deducting 11, will bring the 3rd moon back to the 24th March this year, on which day it is new moon again at Peking, where the first day of the Chinese moon was established, and westwards, and, allowing for the intercalary month in the Chinese calendar this year, and the extra day for leap year in the English calendar next year, it will be found by the same system, that the 3rd Chinese moon will commence on the 11th April, 1888, on which day the moon will be new, indisputably, all over China. To say, therefore, that the first day of the third moon of the present year falls on the 25th instead of the 24th March is to say that the first day of the third moon last year, and the first day of the third moon next year, are wrong, which we have seen is not the case. Hence it follows that the first day of the third Chinese moon falls on the 24th March this year, giving 29 and not 30 days to the second moon, and that I have not fallen into an error as alleged.

There are many other reasons to shew that there are only 29 days to the second moon which no ephemeral production, official, or otherwise, can alter, but I fear I have already said too much upon this subject.—And remain, Sir, your obedient servant,

EDITOR, "HONGKONG ALMANACK."

Hongkong, 11th February, 1887.

[Our correspondent has made out his case astronomically, but whether right or wrong the Chinese will certainly abide by the official calendar, and that is what must guide Europeans doing business with them.—ED. *D. P.*]

ANNAM.

QUINHON, 21st January.

The situation in Annam continues the same. The rebels keep the field, and it is not wise to run the risk of leaving the posts to disperse them. It even seems that the fermentation has latterly become greater. This may perhaps be attributed to the approach of the New Year festival.

Famine is present. The rice crop has been short, especially in Binthuan and the Quinhon province. The want of food exasperates the Annamites, and an attack on the granaries is feared. As a precautionary measure the sentries have everywhere been doubled and the posts strengthened.

A small column has just returned to Quinhon, bringing back with them from their expedition four brass cannon and some ammunition taken from a band which dispersed immediately they were fired upon. It is unfortunately always thus. The rebels disperse before us, to reform again after we have passed. Until an example is made of which they will preserve the recollection, until they are punished once for all, we will always be having to recommence over again.

It is believed here that the taking of Ba-dinh will have a good effect. It will discourage the rebels and prevent their extending their movements during the New Year celebration.

The Quinhon hospital has been repaired with materials brought from Saigon, and the patients have now been taken back there. The sanitary condition of the place is perfect, with the winter weather we are having.

The *Laclochéterie*, which accompanied the *Comète*, has left for Saigon, where she will embark the reinforcement of 1,200 men of which I spoke in my last letter and which were at first intended to have brought on by the M. M. steamer *Aréthuse*, which was requisitioned for that purpose.—Translated from the *Courrier d'Haiphong*.

BANGKOK.

Under the heading "A Storm in a Tea Cup," which, if the account given be correct, is not inappropriate, the *Bangkok Times* says:—"We regret to hear that during the late festivities the Dutch and Belgian Consuls took offence at some imaginary want of courtesy and absented themselves from the ceremonies on the 14th January. Both Mr. Hamel and Mr. Shaw considered they had a very serious grievance against the Siamese officials, and therefore thought proper to simultaneously leave the Palace in a most ostentatious manner, shortly after their arrival." The facts are then given as follow:—"On the 14th January, the two gentlemen in question mutually repaired to the Royal Palace to offer their congratulations to His Majesty the King, but as soon as they had entered, instead of betaking themselves to the Pavilion set apart for the reception of Diplomatic and Consular personages, they must needs endeavour to mount a staircase which led to some private apartments in the Royal Palace. They were of course stopped by the guard and an altercation took place, when an official of the Court came up and politely explained matters, at the same time, in a most cordial manner, offering to conduct the gentlemen to the Pavilion reserved for their reception. Mr. Hamel, however, became greatly 'huffed' and, declaring that there was no alternative left but to forego the pleasure of appearing before His Majesty, abruptly left, closely followed by his colleague, Mr. Shaw. We have been informed that the very same afternoon, both Mr. Shaw and Mr. Hamel addressed the Foreign Minister on the subject and the latter even went so far as to characterise his reception as 'signally disgraceful!' If disgrace there was, surely the onus does not rest with the Siamese authorities, who showed themselves the very cream of politeness and in a most cordial manner offered to conduct the two gentlemen to their respective seats."